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We beg leave to state that we decline to return or to enter into correspondence as to rejected communications; and to this rule we can make no exception. Manuscripts not acknowledged within four weeks are rejected.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The City's welcome home to the Prince and Princess of Wales from their Indian travel was magnificent, West rivalling East in splendour. It is one of the compensations of the party system that when without a discordant note, or a thought of party, our leading statesmen join in celebrating an event like this, the effect is the more excellent. If English people think—or shout—Empire ordinarily, they really feel it on such an occasion. Nothing could be better than the speeches on Thursday at the Guildhall, the Prince of Wales' homely touch recalling "my dear father's" visit to India thirty years ago being particularly happy.

It is difficult to gauge the situation in South Africa. The continued addition to the Volunteer forces—to whose self-sacrifice Lord Selborne paid a warm tribute on Wednesday—and the persistent rumours that imperial aid will have to be invoked after all certainly do not tend to reassure the public mind as to the course events are taking. There have been some sharp brushes with Bambaata's impis, Colonel Leuchars in one case narrowly escaping ambush, and there has been some kraal-burning. These incidents, however, do not amount to much, and there is little evidence that Colonel Mackenzie will shortly be in a position to bring about a decisive general engagement. He is said to be preparing a big sweeping movement. Whilst it would be madness for the Natal authorities to run the risk of the smallest reverse, there is not the least doubt that every day's delay makes the outlook more disquieting. Several chiefs are waiting to see which way things go, and any sign that fortune was on the side of the natives would probably be enough to induce them to join the rebellion.

Chinese deserters from the Rand are still a terror to the lonely homesteads on the veld, and General Botha

has threatened that he will come to England to interview the Government on the subject if the outrages are not stopped. In this event Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman and his colleagues might possibly be made to realise the harm they have done by their policy which has necessarily weakened Transvaal action. The Royal Commission, appointed to find a way for the better control of the Chinese, apparently propose that the compounds should be fenced with barbed wire—"an unusual device in restraint of ordinary liberty", as Mr. Churchill calls it, which would certainly shock the susceptibilities of all good Radicals. Mr. Churchill objects to the term "desertion": in the great majority of cases it is a matter of "absence without leave". It is amusing, if not altogether convincing, to have the Under-Secretary's assurance that in connexion with the Chinese the Government can at no time "repudiate the definite promises or undertakings which have been made". South African colonists will no doubt hear this with pleasure.

The Sultan availed himself of his full ten days' notice to quit Tabah and other Egyptian posts in the Sinai Peninsula which his forces had appropriated. Apparently he found some difficulty in convincing himself that our Foreign Secretary could really mean to take the steps necessary to turn his too zealous officers out of an arid stretch of territory merely because its occupation was a strategic menace to Egypt. Sir Edward Grey's promptitude and firmness in handling this awkward question will have their effect not with Turkey only. In foreign affairs at least it is clear the Government has a mind of its own. Next month Turkish and British-Egyptian representatives will proceed to delimit the frontier so that the possibility of a future misunderstanding is reduced to a minimum. Even this proposal has met with some opposition on the part of the Porte. Delimitation is a reminder that Turkish rights over things Egyptian are merely formal, and cannot be turned into realities by the intrigues of Mukhtar Pasha or any other of the Sultan's favourites abroad.

The Russian Douma has been engaged most of the week in drawing up and discussing the reply to the address of the Crown. It comprises demands for universal amnesty and for what practically amounts to

the most democratic form of parliamentary government: the complete responsibility of Ministers to the Douma itself, and the abolition of the second chamber. But the propositions in regard to legislation take an even more extreme form. Proposals for taking the lands of the State, the Church and the nobles to meet the peasants' demands, and for universal suffrage male and female. The discussion on the latter subject appears to have excited the deputies more than anything else, and there were the usual absurdities which are the commonplaces of such debates wherever they are held. On Thursday the Council of the Empire, the second chamber, met for business for the first time, and Count Witte made a speech announcing that the Tsar would not in the present condition of Russia generally and with the assassination of officials be able to grant the universal amnesty demanded but would be guided by the circumstances of particular cases.

It is particularly unfortunate that in this phase of the Russian polity the London newspaper press should be totally incompetent to give Englishmen a fair and approximately accurate account of what is taking place. The correspondents of such papers as rejoice in that luxury are either Englishmen who cannot speak Russian and are quite out of touch with Russian or they are Russians, usually Russian Jews, violent partisans, desirous of using the British press as an influence against the Russian Government. The "Times", as we all know, has no S. Petersburg correspondent. It has "a Correspondent"—many of them—but it is impossible to take their stories seriously. The man, for instance, who gave a version yesterday of Count Witte's speech is obviously twisting every sentence of it to make prejudice against Count Witte.

Londoners generally have not taken so much interest in the German Burgomasters as in the French Councilors, simply because the newspapers had not got up a catch phrase easily turned on the tongue. We are Germans ourselves—with a common origin, as Mr. Bryce remarked professorially in his speech at the "Tribune" office; but that does not help us much to understand German. And, by the way, what is the special association of the Eighty Club with Germany or with municipal institutions that it should fall the honour of being so prominent in entertaining the Burgomasters? This is a return visit for one made last year to Germany by English municipal representatives; the first of a series of municipal Kindergarten combining instruction and amusement which must be agreeable indeed to those who take part in them.

Several somewhat naïve ideas were expressed by the German speakers which stand out from the vast quantity of stereotyped talk common to such occasions. The Burgomaster of Aachen discovered to his delight, he said, that in London the merchant was at the head of society and occupied the first position in the State. We feel a certain lack of subtlety in an observation of this kind as there is in the discovery that the children of all classes of the people are to be found in the common schools. As to the efficiency of the London Fire Brigade our visitors are on safer ground, and they think it is hardly up to the German standard. Even the horses are better educated in Berlin and they take their own places to be yoked when the alarm-bell rings! We fancy this will hurt Londoners' feelings more than any other of their shortcomings.

Dulwich was kept by the Unionists by a majority of 1,279 as against 357—a significant increase, as the Unionist papers put it; the smallest Conservative majority but one in the history of the constituency, as the Liberal papers have it. Both are right and both are superfluous. It is amazing that editors can allow their leader-writers to go on writing the old inane things about by-elections. Everyone knows by this time that you can make a by-election a victory or a defeat for either party according as you describe it. But the crowning futility is to write a column about a by-election and then—"be it observed"—insist that you were never one of those who attached an exaggerated importance to by-elections. We ourselves are satisfied with the bare fact that Mr. Bonar Law got in by a substantial

majority. The return of none of the Unionist exiles could be more welcome.

Lord Castlereagh has been more fortunate than Mr. J. Barker the Liberal member who won Maidstone in 1901 but was subsequently unseated on petition. At some places it seems to be a matter of course to assume that the successful candidate's agents have committed their principal in some way or another; and Maidstone is perhaps one of them. The Liberal papers are hinting darkly that Mr. Justice Grantham is not the man to let the Whig dogs have the best of the argument. Yarmouth and Maidstone are disappointing to them, and they have a somewhat easy target in Mr. Justice Grantham who lays himself more open to animadversion than is edifying in the case of a High Court Judge. Mr. Justice Lawrance did not differ so completely from his colleague as Mr. Justice Channell did at Yarmouth, but he by no means treated the Maidstone revels with the nonchalance of "his brother". If there was not bribery there was something very near it, he said.

Mr. Balfour made a good point in the City on Wednesday, when he cited the protest of the Free Church Federation against the Manchester Town Council. The Town Council propose that during a portion of the year the ministers of religion on the rota for attendance at the cemetery shall be Unitarians. The Free Church Federation objects; as we should object, and as Mr. Balfour would object; an arrangement unfair to the friends and relations of the Orthodox dead. But the cemetery chaplaincy is a public office; and how is the Free Church objection to be met without a religious test? They see the difficulty themselves and proceed to explain that "the duty in question is of a nature which requires some presumptive guarantee of suitability in point of religious conviction". Precisely, urged Mr. Balfour, what we think as to teachers of religion. Is it not extraordinary that nonconformists should think it a grievance that a Unitarian should conduct the burial service for one who was not a Unitarian, but should be perfectly content that their children should take their chance of being taught the truths of religion by one who was a Unitarian or agnostic or anything or nothing else? Is Free Church religion a religion of the dead, not of the living? We do not believe it is, but it seems to be their own idea of it.

Mr. Birrell, opening a secondary school somewhere on Saturday, expressed a fervently pious horror, "God forbid" were his words, at the thought of a school interfering with home influence. Then how about Mr. Birrell's Bill? In numberless cases he proposes that the school should change the religious teaching, approved of by the children's parents, into something quite different. Is not that the school interfering with home influence? Surely home influence means the influence of the parent. But Mr. Birrell and his friends will not hear of any parent's right in the matter. Mr. Asquith says it is a figment. And Mr. Birrell's zeal for home influence must be a figment too, "for this occasion only".

The Opposition in the House of Commons is scarcely strengthening the hands of the House of Lords in suffering such a distinct party measure as the Justices of the Peace Bill to go through its third reading without a word, much less a vote against it. This Bill is not going to cause exactly a revolution in the present system, though this is no doubt what the rank-and-file radicals in the House of Commons would like to see, but it is a peddling ill-natured sort of attempt to humiliate the country gentlemen who on the whole do their work well enough and do it without thought of personal gain. It is to be hoped that the Lords will at any rate insert some provision whereby no man may be made a magistrate who neither lives in the county nor has any interest therein. Whether they are likely to go further than this, after the tame way in which the measure has been handled in the Commons, is very doubtful.

The whole thing is a sort of re-echo of Mr. Labouchere's blacklisting of the magistracy rarely heard of nowadays, but once a constant theme in politics.

Mr. Labouchere without doubt discovered a good many irregularities, but certainly the country bench is clean. Is it so always with the District and Parish Councils which Liberals were so proud and happy to set up? We doubt it. Indeed it is notorious that jobbery, none the lovelier because it is on a small scale, is quite common among these bodies. If the local benches go the way of these bodies, owing to their infusion or flooding by irresponsible petty jobbers, they will have to make way for stipendiary magistrates everywhere. And Conservatives will make the change.

If however the Justices of the Peace Bill is partisan, an attempt to score off and humiliate opponents, how much more so the Plural Voting Bill! Nobody is so innocent as to doubt the object of this measure. The plural voter is to be abolished simply because as a rule he votes Tory. No honest Liberal will pretend that we should ever have seen this Bill if the plural vote had on the whole belonged to the other side in party politics. Liberals themselves declare that the Irish have far too many seats in the House of Commons at the present time, an anomaly far greater and more pressing than plural voting. Yet they do not venture, never will venture, to touch this, being afraid of the Nationalists. They only dare touch questions of franchise and Parliamentary representation where they can do so with absolute safety and convenience to themselves. We should like to hear what Lord Rosebery thinks of this policy—he at any rate is not afraid of offending the Nationalists.

We are always glad when the House of Lords stands up to the House of Commons. The Lords are inclined to be over-respectful to the Commons; they make too little of their independence. If they would flatly decline to rush through in a few hours measures flung at their heads by the Commons in the last days of the session, they would strengthen their position. But we are not sure they have chosen a very happy occasion for crossing the Commons in throwing out the Labour party's addition to the Aliens Bill. There is something essentially repugnant to English feeling in foreign labour being imported expressly to weigh down one party in a dispute going on between employers and their men. It looks like importing into the dispute an illegitimate element. True the now customary cowardice of the Government in shirking responsibility either of opposing or supporting the Bill gives the Lords every right to throw it out, apart from merits.

Extremes meet; Mr. Keir Hardie the other day used what would one time have been called a fine old Tory argument. He declared that the hindrance to all sorts of reforms his party wants does not come from the people of high position and wealth but from the indifference of the very people sought to be benefited. The Tory's inference was that it was better to wait till the people had a grievance: and he declaimed against agitators for "putting things into the people's heads". It is of course not Mr. Keir Hardie's view. But he is undoubtedly right as to his facts except for the special case of the unemployed. Mr. Bernard Shaw, amongst others, also found it out long ago. This fact has done more to damp down socialism than any other amongst people who were once enthusiastic.

On Thursday on the Civil Service Estimate vote for Parliament the House of Commons talked about its creature comforts for three hours. Seeing that such influential groups of Liberal and Labour ask for free postage and free railway travelling and so forth, one rather wonders that nobody has yet suggested free tobacco for the M.P. However, on Thursday the proposals did not go so far as this; the chief question was whether the libraries should be open to smokers or not. Mr. Crombie, as a strict non-smoker—though not as he explained a "particularly virtuous person"—moved a reduction of the vote by £100 to protest against smoking in the library. Mr. F. E. Smith had apparently not prepared his speech so carefully as usual. Perhaps he had Balzac in mind when he suggested rotten apples as a stimulant to speech, but the flavour of his wit was not quite so good

as usual. The non-smokers were on a division defeated by a large majority. The Prime Minister a few days ago was boasting of the tremendous keenness of the members of this Parliament, and the debate on Thursday is certainly evidence of this.

Is not the quizzing of the House of Commons by the press really going too far? "Punch" in its *Essence of Parliament*, as we all know, began this thing, and so persistently depicted Mr. T. G. Bowles M.P. as a man with a cork leg and a hook for a hand, that in the end many people actually came to believe that these were his infirmities. But now most of the papers, discarding the old-fashioned Parliamentary reports, make light of the whole business. What are we to expect when we find a serious and intellectual daily journal, with something of the tradition of John Bright, describing how Mr. Chamberlain sat down by accident on the knees of Mr. Bonar Law, no sooner had the new member taken his seat on the Opposition front bench? But reading the descriptive accounts of Parliament to-day we might suppose the House of Commons filled with awkward and eccentric and exceedingly ugly men.

Front benchers are commonly presented to us with their legs sprawling over the table of the House: they scrawl notes on blotting-pads balanced on their knees. If they are not doing this they are offensively asleep, lolling anyhow on the bench. Their arguments, if they have any, are rarely mentioned, but their facial expression is studied with extreme care, and nothing of the ghastly pallor which spreads over their countenances when a point is made against them is left to the imagination of the reader of these amazing Parliamentary proceedings. But worst of all are their voices: the evening hymn at the Zoological Gardens has nothing wilder or stranger. It is a very nightmare of Parliament that the descriptive writer offers us each morning.

Mr. Herbert Gladstone's handling of the case of Madame d'Angely is not at all happy; it even recalls Mr. Matthews and the Cass case. Whether he has anything "up his sleeve" or not of course we do not know, but assuming he has not, assuming—as in this the public has a right to—that nothing is being withheld, Mr. Gladstone has not done very well. He has beaten about the bush and constantly changed his ground in a curious way. Fortunately for him the Liberal press cannot agitate the business as they would like to, and the efforts of the Conservative newspapers have been spasmodic. Why did not Mr. Gladstone admit at once without the slightest prevarication that in this case grave injustice had been done? It required perhaps some courage and firmness to do this, but we look for these qualities, surely, in a Home Secretary if in any man: as it is we have had something perilously like shuffling. A reputation for statesmanship which a man makes for himself is damaged seriously by a mistake of this character; and we do not suppose the hereditary reputation is less sensitive.

Mr. Gladstone could have made a handsome apology without any real injury to the police. In the present state of some of the London streets at night, it is inevitable that now and then an unfortunate mistake of this kind should be made. We are convinced that on the whole the London police do their work admirably. As a body, they are bold, patient, obliging, splendidly disciplined, and truly efficient. Of course black sheep appear among them now and then, but it is extraordinary how few these are. All officers agree in a good opinion of the men as a body: one only wishes army officers could invariably speak so well of the private. Whatever the Royal Commissioners find, it is a dead certainty that they will bear witness to the excellence of the London police.

The House of Lords has decided unanimously that the Yorkshire Miners' Association is not liable to pay damages, a very large sum, to the Denaby and Cadby Main Colliery Company. It has held that the Central Union was not responsible for the acts of two branch officials, and that the giving of strike pay did not make the Association liable for supporting the strike.

This case was one of those which up to this week had been considered by trade unionists as imposing on the central bodies a liability for a class of persons as their agents by virtue of their position without proof that they were actually agents. The Government Bill was designed to change this amongst other things. Now the House of Lords' decision makes this at least unnecessary; but it has required a very long and costly litigation to establish this position. The case shows how very desirable it is that trade-union law should be revised without throwing money away over dubious points.

It cannot be supposed that the Royal Commission on Vivisection will settle whether vivisection is a fruitful scientific method or not; nor, above all, the moral question whether at all events it ought to be prohibited. For those who are not anti-vivisectionists the real point must be to decide if the charges made against the administration of the present Acts and the practice of physiologists are true. The physiologists are as indignant in denial as the anti-vivisectionists are in assertion. We cannot accept the anti-vivisection theory; but every right-minded person must be so painfully conscious of possible abuse that he cannot be hard on those who take stronger views than he can do. But sensational pictures of a vivisectionist in his shirt-sleeves about to operate on a pathetic little dog, and equally sensational tracts, settle nothing. They but stimulate a taste for the morbid.

The returns of marriages and births and deaths are about as complete as statistics can be. If Mr. Lloyd-George and Mr. Chamberlain got as complete a census for trade they might agree about the fiscal question; but probably they would not. The Registrar gives us all the facts, but he refrains from telling us exactly what we are to make of a marriage rate with a small fractional increase for the country in 1905 over 1904, but with precisely the same fractional decrease for London, and a declining birth and death rate both in the country and in London. Even in the country the marriage rate is below the ten-year average. In London the birth rate was two per thousand below the average, the lowest on record; but the death rate was also the lowest recorded. And so, taking England and Wales as a whole, the birth and death rates are the lowest ever known; and in the first quarter of this year the story of the birth rate is continued.

The death is announced this week of Mr. H. B. Brabazon, the watercolour painter, at the age of eighty-four. It was only in the last two years that his wonderful force failed and he could be called an old man. Till then he was alert and youthful, full of the two main interests of his life, painting and music. He had enjoyed ten happy years of fame, for the public exhibition of his work came late, and fame came with it, but not too late for pleasure. Those who saw, at the beginning of that period, the accumulated stores of his portfolios will never forget a rare experience. Belonging to the country-squire class, he had painted *en amateur*, distributing his sketches among his friends, without thought of selling, and many of these friends were not a little astonished to find that the work of their eccentric neighbour was ranked so highly by artists. Our public galleries, it is perhaps needless to say, contain no example of his exquisite art.

The Burlington Fine Arts Club has opened to its friends a very interesting exhibition of early German art, pictures, drawings, and objects of craftsmanship. The catalogue, as in other instances of exhibitions at the Club, is a valuable work of reference and criticism, including introductions to the various schools signed by three of the chief experts in this country, Messrs. Montagu Peartree, Alban Head and Campbell Dodgson. The opening of this exhibition of early German art will be quickly followed by the modern exhibition at Prince's Club, Knightsbridge, arranged by a committee of English artists. A preliminary banquet takes place next Tuesday, and the formal opening on Thursday. A charming little exhibition now open is that of drawings by Gainsborough at the Colnaghi Galleries in Pall Mall.

FORCE AND THE COMITY OF NATIONS.

THE Anglo-Turkish crisis has ended in the only way it could end, in the complete collapse of Ottoman resistance. The Turk, after the telegram of 1892 to the present Khedive, had no case and (what was much worse for his purpose) no adequate force to support his pretensions. The Sultan's Ministers knew this all along but the Ministers never have much voice in determining the policy of Yildiz Kiosk. The intelligent Mohammedans of Constantinople will feel some satisfaction in the fact that the Palace gang has had a bad fall. They will not in all probability be seriously disturbed because the party to inflict the humiliation is a Christian Power. The indignity will be no serious blow to the Sultan who does not suffer in this case as a Western potentate would. He disgraces one or two favourites and then turns to intrigue elsewhere. In the present state of Ottoman affairs such utilities are the raw material of policy and twenty failures make no impression upon the obstinacy of Abdul Hamid. The obtuse lack of perception which underlies his cleverness is clearly to be seen in the forlorn hope evidently cherished that he might in this matter set one Great Power against another, nothing being more evident to the most superficial observer than that it would not suit the designs of any European Chancery to see us seriously weakened in Egypt and still less to help to instal Turkey in our place. We may be quite sure that no Delimitation Commission will be permitted to encroach upon the Sinai Peninsula. What the decision of such a Commission may be matters little enough. The only vital question is what is the force behind ready, if required, to back its verdict.

And this brings us to the moral of the whole affair. It is one particularly useful for application to a Liberal Government. Not that any such warning is required by Sir Edward Grey who has acted with the vigour and promptitude all the world expected of him. But such commendable vigour was only possible owing to the unequalled capacity of British seamanship and the unrivalled force of the British navy. The acknowledgment of Egyptian claims made in 1892 would not have had any weight with the Sultan but for big guns behind it. The present Foreign Secretary has no sardonic humour but he would be more than human did he not accept the proposal of the "Pacifists" for a general reduction of armaments with some sense of the humour of the situation. At the very moment when our own overwhelming forces are compelling obedience to our behests and appeals for arbitration coming from the parties we coerce are contemptuously rejected, the man who is wielding that force for his own purposes warmly endorses the proposal for a general disarmament. He further promises that this country, whose ships were just being employed for a most drastic display of pure force, should take the lead in recommending the rest of the world to adopt a programme which would soon put West at the mercy of East if logically carried out. Whether the Sultan would see the humour of the conjunction of circumstances may be doubtful. It cannot escape the less prejudiced apprehension of Western Europe. Of course Sir Edward Grey took the only step compatible with his supporters' prejudices, and he knew the amiable futility to which he was lending himself. He could safely endorse aspirations which he knew would never come off. The sentiment of all nations in these matters is in truth "*que messieurs les assassins commencent*". No harm is done to anybody by generous resolutions and conferences on disarmament. No nation will disarm beyond the proportion in which other nations will follow suit. Even if certain States resolved on a mutual reduction of military and naval forces, so amiable a treaty would only be followed by reproaches of bad faith and evasion of pledges, the inevitable outcome of such altruistic experiments in an unregenerate world. And the result would be war.

The present system of armed watchfulness has at all events kept European peace for many years, and every ship built is an insurance against aggression. The counting of forces is the inexorable preliminary in these days to every step in policy. When they are so nearly balanced no Government will heedlessly risk aggression.

It is true, on the other hand, that the employment of overwhelming power to attack any European State wantonly might well lead to a coalition of resistance which would prove more powerful than the aggressor. Aggression is not therefore the fruit of the present state of universal preparation. The balance of armaments and nothing else preserves international equilibrium.

We hear much at times of the nightmare of excessive armament which is supposed to oppress European peoples, but every person acquainted with those peoples must be well aware that the said "nightmare" is the chief source of self-satisfaction to the peoples said to be oppressed. The best Frenchmen see in loyalty to the army their only compensation for the absence of a royal house in which the aspirations of the nation may centre. The pride of Germany in her army need not be dilated upon; even in ultra-democratic Switzerland the joy of the people in soldiering is manifest to anybody who has observed the summer manoeuvres. The control of large forces does not make nations eager to fight. It makes rather for mutual respect which discourages aggression. It is really the guarantee for the comity of nations and the only stable guarantee. If a general limitation of armaments might save some money, it would enforce no moral principle, for the proportion kept between the rivals would be the same in any feasible scheme since no one would be satisfied and constant suspicion of being outdone by rivals would strip concessions of all their grace. The only reasonable standard in these matters is to be found in what every nation can afford, or rather it is fixed by the burden any nation is willing to bear in order to ensure its own position in the world. "Mutual cowardice" said Dr. Johnson "keeps us at peace". We would rather put it to-day that individual sacrifices ensure common politeness. The comity of nations means nothing but a due recognition by all of each one's position in the international company. But it is mere cant to pretend that anyone seriously believes that this is ever ensured by anything but the capacity of each one either to protect himself, or at the least by his possession of sufficient capacity for resistance to lead another to join him in a common opposition to aggression. We do not take into account the cases where independence is only guaranteed by external help, which is no cause for self-esteem but merely the recognition by others of the desirability of the guaranteed state prolonging someone else's existence for their own benefit. No amount of ingenious pleading or rhetoric can conceal the evident teaching of all history that outside a nation's own capacity to protect itself and willingness to make sacrifices to that end there is no salvation to be found in phrases like the "comity of nations". There are plenty of instances within our own empire of the absence of military burdens being no pledge to a state of the development of public spirit in its citizens. They who deprecate the expenditure on armaments are often decrying the one thing that relieves existence from the mere sordid ideals of money-making and pleasure. The United States are none the better for their small sacrifices for national ends nor are certain British colonies which it would be invidious to specify. Shouting for empire is no compensation for the absence of the true imperial spirit which consists in a willingness to make sacrifices persistently and not spasmodically for the principle of nationality.

LAYMEN AND THE EDUCATION BILL.

IT was well that the meeting of Churchmen at the Albert Hall went straight for the vitals of the Bill. It is easy and in its place pertinent to make the Government proposals look wholly ridiculous in their want of logic, their mutual destructiveness, their inconsistency with the avowed intentions of their author or authors, for no one knows exactly how many cooks went to the making of this dish; in their unscrupulous yet ineffective injustice; their failure to settle a single unsettled question; their attempt to please the Government's many friends, with the proverbial result. Never did a first-class Bill make so good a target for light railleury. No wonder Mr. Balfour has enjoyed himself, getting in

his point here, there, and everywhere with the neat rapidity of the finished artist. But the average Englishman is not convinced by sword-play. It is effective with the intellectuals, but the plain man, which is perhaps something of a euphemism for the dull man, is secretly inclined to sympathise with the unfortunate slow-moving blunderer, the bludgeon-man, who cannot keep pace with the rapier. He has the feeling that the quick man is probably not quite so honest as his burly out-of-breath opponent. He will not be moved by any demonstration that the Bill is ridiculous and illogical and all a muddle. He must be shown moral not intellectual defects. Prove injustice and he will probably take his stand on your side. Very rightly the speakers at the Church meeting concerned themselves with the Government's intentions. Were the Bill, if it did exactly what it was meant to do, just? Is there honest plain ground, independent of party, political or ecclesiastical, why Churchmen should oppose this Bill?

The meetings of Churchmen taking place up and down the country seem to leave no doubt that the ordinary Churchman thinks at any rate that there is. We are told, of course, that this is mere bishops' wire-pulling; it is sacerdotalism: and if it is not sacerdotalism, it is something equally wicked, Toryism. We are not quite sure, if nonconformist ministers and their influence were eliminated, and all Liberals were excluded from every meeting held in support of the Bill, that the friends of this measure would make a very imposing show. The logical conclusion from Ministerial criticism of protests against the Bill is that no protestant counts who is not a Liberal with a robust contempt for all ministers of religion. Probably, too, he must be a Liberal of a low class; for meetings like that held at Londonderry House on Monday obviously cannot count. How could there be any conscience in a meeting held in Park Lane, presided over by a Marchioness? It is certainly true that a Liberal opponent of the Bill, drawn from the lower classes, and imbued with a contempt for all ministers of religion, is a rarish bird. But is the Tory supporter of the Bill any commoner? Either we shall have to say that the Bill meets with neither support nor opposition that counts, or we must accept these Church meetings as real evidence of feeling. At the same time to stop, or at least to muffle, the mouth of the blasphemer, we should like to see a great many meetings held of laymen only, all parsons being rigidly excluded. One we note, is already fixed up for London. The Liberal press of course would tell us that the parsons had organised these meetings from behind, driving in their obedient flocks. Yet the clergy, we are told on other occasions, have lost all their influence, a thing of the past, especially the wicked bishops. It is the hard case of an Anglican clergyman that if he leaves a thing alone, the opponents of the Church call him a loafer; if he touches it, they say it is infected, and so put out of court. Happily the dilemma does not in any way trouble our clergy, for in doing their duty they do not consider their opponents at all. On the whole, we do not think the general public has any real doubt that the laymen of the Church of England are deeply moved, independently of clerical influence, by this Bill.

Put as plainly as possible, what grounds have they for this apprehension?

(1) The Bill reduces to a small number the schools in which religious teaching was formerly assured, schools which hitherto have educated more than half the elementary school children of the whole country. It is optional to the local authority to allow or disallow religious teaching in the schools under its control; therefore there is a possibility of a large number of formerly Church schools on transference to the local authority being wholly secularised, at any rate on four days a week, a probability of a good many of them being secularised, and a certainty of some. Thus the Bill cannot increase the extent of religious teaching given to elementary school children, but will diminish it; whether by much or by little remains to be seen. Churchmen object to any diminution of religious teaching at all: why should they take a risk of drastic curtailment?

(2) As the quantity of teaching will be affected, so will the quality, but more certainly and more gravely.

Churchmen believe in the principles of their Church, therefore they wish the children of members of their Church to be educated in those principles. Under this Bill teaching informed with those doctrines will be reduced to extra "lessons" twice a week in the majority of what are now Church schools. The children will gradually be handed over to teachers as to whose religious principles parents can have no guarantee.

(3) Religious teaching by being put out of school hours becomes an extra, which the children will regard as something quite distinct from school. Their regard for it will naturally decline. They will look on it as a lesson they can go to or not as they like, and neglectful parents will keep their children away from the religious teaching to do jobs at home. Thus by the school system the child will be placed in a false attitude to religion, to be corrected only by home influence or by that of the religious society the child grows up in; whereas school and the child's home or church should mutually support each other.

(4) The development of Biblical criticism has made undenominational Christian teaching much more difficult than it was before. The average elementary school teacher, with the best intention, is not equal to the extremely difficult task of steering between denominational teaching on the one hand and a vagueness on the other hand, practically indistinguishable from Unitarianism. In the result the so-called religious teaching is likely to become a mere historic or literary lesson; which again Biblical criticism has made very difficult to give. No half-educated person is competent to do it. Bad history and literary nonsense will take the place of sound religion.

(5) The concession allowing schools in which four fifths of the scholars belong to one church to remain denominational is illusory. It hangs on the good will of the local authority, and could be defeated by wire-pulling. It is also inequitable, in that far fewer Church schools will come within its purview than Roman Catholic and Jewish schools.

(6) While the Bill deprives the Church of England, as every other religious body respectively, of its influence in most of the schools formerly attached to it, it gives no compensation in the way of right to teach Church children in the County (Board) schools. If the municipal authority is to take over the denominational schools, the Cowper-Temple clause must be repealed as a contra.

THE PLURAL VOTING BILL.

THE whole treatment by the Government of this measure of disfranchisement has been marked by a combination of arrogance and cynicism. To whom do they entrust its conduct? To the First Commissioner of Works, whose maiden speech is that in which he introduced it. In effect it will deprive large numbers of electors of votes, and fundamentally alter the historical principle on which our representative system is based. But its authors have neither the courage, nor the fixed convictions, expressly to enact that any existing qualifications for the franchise shall be abolished. The qualifications will remain; but the exercise of the votes in more than one constituency, which those qualifications confer, will be penalised. How can such a proposal be justified in logic or in equity? In truth it cannot be justified. But it will be wise for the supporters of plural voting to make this admission. There is a distinction between a mere faggot vote and a bona-fide double or plural occupation qualification. No doubt some of the many existing qualifications for the franchise have in the past been abused, and qualifications have been artificially created with the object of giving a vote to a particular person, and of thus swelling the register. But the temptation to create faggot votes of this kind has been steadily diminished by the constant growth in the size of constituencies. It is certain that any changes in our electoral system in the future will still further increase the average number of electors in a constituency, and make the artificial production of individual qualifications of still smaller practical use. But there is every difference between the moral and intrinsic value of a vote depending upon a qualification

manufactured with the distinct object of yielding a vote, in respect of which the voter has no natural and local interest, and the vote which, although plural, exists because the voter has a genuine proprietary or occupation interest in the particular house or land. In the future the effective importance in any constituency of the wholly artificial qualifications will become quite negligible. And there would be no serious objection to, and there should be no insurmountable difficulty in, their abolition. On the other hand, the position of the possessor of a genuine plural qualification through a freehold and an occupation franchise, or through more than one occupation, is absolutely different. The customary illustration of this class of voter is the man who has business premises and interests in a city, and who at the same time has a vote in some county division, where he employs labour and takes a part in all local affairs, and is affected by all that concerns the welfare of that district. It is obvious that such an elector is equally interested in the representation of the urban and the rural constituency in which he has his qualifications; therefore to preclude him from casting a vote in each case for the candidate whom he prefers would be unfair and would be depriving the register of a really interested and authoritative vote. But this class of business men with more than one genuine qualification is nowadays only a type of a constantly increasing number of men, whose lives and activities are not confined to one locality. The facilities for locomotion, the modern desire for a country as well as a town house, and many other conditions and habits of modern life are steadily adding to the number of men who are active and beneficent members of more than one local community.

Take the case of a Parliamentary barrister who during the Session leads a laborious life in London, which gives him especial insight into the working of London government, and into the merits of London political and social questions. It may well be that he is a moving spirit in his London parish, and in his metropolitan borough. He has also a house, hereditary or acquired, in the country, where he spends as much of his time as he can spare from his practice. He may farm largely. He is very possibly chairman of his parish council, churchwarden, a foundation manager of the village school (Mr. Birrell's Bill is not law), and a trusted leader in every sort of local movement and enterprise. It would be an infringement of equity not to allow such an elector to exercise the franchise in respect of both these qualifications. It is for the good of the State that his local knowledge, and genuine local interests, shall make themselves felt in the poll in each of these different constituencies, and it may be said with confidence that if he be disfranchised in respect of one or other of these two qualifications, not only he, but the vast majority of his fellow-electors in the division will feel that a wrong was being done, and that true representation was not being given to the interests of the locality.

And, after all, this is the consideration which should lie at the root of the opposition to this Bill. The Bill invades and subverts the historical basis on which our English system of representation has always rested. That basis has been, and still is, the representation of localities and not of men. Under the provisions of the Bill, the interest, the genuine interest, of voters in particular districts is disregarded, and a faltering attempt is made to obtain an equality of voting power between all sorts and conditions of voters. The idea, of course, which underlies and which alone can logically justify these timid but ingenious proposals, is that the franchise in future should be attached to manhood, and be independent of local or property qualification. Carried to its just conclusions the real principle of this Bill must then altogether destroy the ancient character of our parliamentary representation, and must lead to the gradual adoption of universal manhood, and even womanhood, suffrage. Although no doubt the genesis of the Bill is largely due to the partisan belief that it will benefit electorally the Radical party, and correspondingly injure the Unionists, it may well be that this belief is exaggerated. The true and principal evil of this legislation is not so much that it has an odious partisan bias, nor even—though this is a very real evil—

that it will inflict a positive injustice on legitimate voters, as that it involves a revolutionary and most dangerous change in the historical and essential principles of our representative system.

Another egregiously impudent feature in what Mr. Chamberlain has called this most impudent Bill is that incidentally, and in silence, it would transform the University constituencies, and in effect deal a fatal blow at this part of our representative system. It is obvious that the vast majority of electors of the Universities are plural voters, who would presumably under the provisions of the Bill decide to give their one vote in the constituency in which they were living rather than for the University. The actual voters for the University Members would thus be reduced to but little more than the resident Academic electorate. Here again comes in the party motive. Liberalism is much stronger proportionately amongst the teaching coterie of resident dons than amongst the great body of Oxford and Cambridge men out in the world. But whether it be politic, or not, to subvert the basis of University representation; whether or not it be desirable to eliminate it altogether from our system, there can be no question that the transformation, or the elimination, should be effected deliberately, by express enactment, and not as an accidental result of a small measure of partisan gerrymandering. No serious student of recent political events can think that this is an opportune moment for depriving by stealth as it were the House of Commons of this ancient and wholesome element of our representative system. When the proper occasion arises, its continued existence can be amply justified. But that it should be surreptitiously and indirectly destroyed by the operation of this Bill is the crowning reason why it must not become law.

THE LOVE OF THE ILLOGICAL.

"WHAT has the defence of the Government been?" said Mr. Balfour in the City speaking of the Education Bill. "They have said 'This Bill we admit is an illogical Bill, but then we are an illogical people, and if we are really to carry out practical legislation it is hardly possible to do it except upon illogical lines'. I do not wish to attack that line of argument too severely. I would only modestly remark that, while want of logic may be and is an inevitable incident of much of our legislative work, it is hardly a merit and should scarcely be claimed as a sufficient reason by itself why provisions otherwise objectionable should be carried into law." In private life certainly no man who was described by a friend or an opponent as illogical would imagine for a moment that he was being paid a compliment. But when we come to the question of the British constitution or of the character of Englishmen at large it has long been understood that there is no higher praise than to speak of them as illogical. This is a venerable tradition and we may respect it without thinking very highly of its wisdom; but when legislators take to defending their measures on the ground of their illogicality they are claiming a somewhat dangerous license. Mr. Asquith for instance defends the teaching of dogma in the provided schools. It was illogical he granted but that was not an objection but a thing to be proud of: it was a thoroughly characteristic specimen of a workable English compromise. Naturally the argument was punctuated with cheers: it was a short way of dealing with Anglicans: and those who liked the conclusion of it did not trouble themselves much about its cogency. This is the special virtue of the argument from illogicality that anything however preposterous can be defended by it. You get into a region where the lord of misrule holds sway, everything is burlesqued, all is illusory, and you may as well cease from all pretences to be conducting yourself as a reasonable being. The Education Bill is a very fine specimen of this employment of the paradoxical, illogical method in legislation; of trying to sit on two sides of a fence at the same time. This performance is the very type of the illogical and it is very dear to the politician. He is enabled to defend any kind of muddled arrangement he may choose to

make; to evade acting on any clear principle and to treat all objectors who have any such principle as logical indeed, but by that very fact unreasonable and absurd. He reproaches them with living in a world of abstractions and not of human beings, and Englishmen and Englishwomen. This argumentative method is particularly irritating to opponents who are met in so easy and contemptuous a manner. Mr. Balfour most of all has been met with this sort of objection.

Politicians understand each other and on occasion both parties will protest that they may be illogical but for all that thoroughly sound. We must take them as talking politics in the sense meant by Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman when he triumphantly remarked on the Plural Voting Bill that he used arguments which suited his party and Mr. Balfour used arguments which suited his. But where men are really serious, in dealing with themselves and their own affairs, they often have a real reverence for the mysterious and so-called illogical mental processes which lead them to what they feel are the best conclusions. They feel that instinct is often a better guide than conscious reasoning, though the instinct may be disparaged as illogical. Practically most men are no doubt right in feeling so. They are like the judge untrained in law whose decisions were remarkable for their correctness. No fault was found with them so long as he made no attempt to give reasoned arguments for them: but when he forgot his prudence and attempted to explain the workings of his mind he exposed himself to derision. Something of this kind has happened we must believe in the success that Englishmen have had in governing themselves and in governing other people. Why this should be so is not explicable; nor why a man acts rightly without being able to prove beforehand on given principles and by consistent reasoning, that what he feels he ought to do will give the best result. But is the process illogical; or is it not rather a deeper logic than we can put into our books on formal logic? What we call inductive logic is but a pitiful attempt to handle what is really beyond our powers. Who shall succeed in describing the logic of faith, belief, hope, trust, loyalty? We have no logic for our deepest impulses; but are we to say our actions when prompted by them are illogical? It is unthinkable that those things on which we rely as guides for the rightness of our actions should not have as solid a basis of reason as those mental operations of reasoning which we can follow and bring under rules of logic.

In this sense there is a good deal of wisdom in feeling a certain satisfaction in being illogical. The difficulties of most great matters are so many that it argues ignorant levity and an evident lack of that humour which is often the beginning of wisdom, to try to give them a definite logical expression. And yet it is an undoubted mark of stupidity if one does not tend to formulate as much as circumstances allow. The uncultured person who never seems to generalise his experience is simply stupid. Foreigners charge Englishmen with an intellectual non-sensitiveness to order and distinctions. They pride themselves in possessing what we lack, and by virtue of it they lay claim to be more philosophical or artistic or scientific than we are. Most Englishmen take this as a kind of compliment. If it is meant maliciously they retort by saying that the temperament which is content to leave many things invested with their native air of mystery shows truer appreciation of realities than that which is always straining after reducing them to a formal logical completeness. Our Constitution may, as some Frenchman said, be non-existent; our laws be chaotic and uncoded; our poetry and prose be amorphous because they have followed no models of style; our philosophical systems be generally eclectic and compromising. Yet Englishmen know these have won admiration from other peoples, and they are not themselves dissatisfied with them as products of the national character. We could hardly have simply blundered into such good results; and we are entitled to say that there must be more logic in our apparent want of logic than might be supposed. It has probably never happened that any work of man, from a machine to a constitution or a religion, has come complete into the world at first. There would be a vast amount of logic, an impossible amount, needed

to devise it all beforehand. The tentative steps are illogical enough, as we see in retrospect. But after all the real logic is in these tentative experiments; in not attempting more than the ability of man or his knowledge at the time makes feasible. The mistake of clever men, radicals and revolutionaries, and of clever nations, often consists in not recognising these limitations; and their logic becomes illogical when tested by results. But it must be confessed that the illogic of Englishmen is by no means confined to that wise kind which we have been suggesting. It often displays itself on occasions when it is sheer intellectual narrowness, and resembles the incurious mental attitude of the unmistakably stupid.

THE CITY.

ALTHOUGH there has been no feature of special interest on the Stock Exchange, and brokers complain of no business, the improvement in prices has been universal. Thus, to cull samples from all markets, Consols have improved $\frac{1}{16}$, Buenos Ayres and Rosarios have risen $\frac{1}{16}$, Union Pacifics $\frac{3}{16}$, Japanese Four and a Halfpence $\frac{1}{16}$, Spanish $\frac{1}{16}$, Grand Trunk Third Preference $\frac{2}{16}$, London and North-Westerns and Brighton A's 1, Rio Tintos $\frac{1}{16}$, and Steel Commons 1. That shows a steady all-round advance, which looks as if the speculative element, both on the "long" and the "short" side had been eliminated. All fears of anything like a monetary squeeze in New York seem to have passed away, for the time being at any rate, and though it is not easy to see how money can be exactly cheap this year, the gloomy fears of a fortnight ago are melting under the sun of common sense and good trade. Say that the San Francisco earthquake does mean a subtraction of £70,000,000 or £80,000,000 from the wealth of America, it must be remembered that the United States are not burdened with the war debts of previous generations, like the European Powers. The loss is really a flea-bite to a nation without an income-tax. We look forward to a steady appreciation of American prices up to the level before the disaster, though of course July and August will be full of the usual scares about the crops. The wise man keeps out of the American market between 1 July and 1 September. There is "something on" in Missouri, Kansas, and Texas, which did not fall more than five points in the scare, and which have been steadily rising during the past week, though the last traffic return is a decrease. It is said that one of the big systems is going to purchase, and that the shares which now stand at $35\frac{1}{4}$ are a good purchase.

The report of Sir West Ridgeway's committee on the new Transvaal constitution is on its way home. Sir West Ridgeway is so deeply interested in so many City ventures—he is the fashionable chairman of the hour—that it is not thought likely he will recommend a franchise which would have the effect of sacrificing the mining industry of the Rand to the agricultural interest of the Veld. It is of course hoped that these two interests will unite under the new constitution to protect the only valuable asset of South Africa. Very slight modifications in the existing labour ordinance would probably suffice to satisfy what is a purely political cry. The one thing needful to restore activity to the Kaffir market is that the present state of suspense should end. "Rand Mines" have just declared a dividend of 100 per cent., and if that were all they could do the proper price of the shares would be £3 instead of £6. But if the labour question were settled, Rand Mines would earn very much from the subsidiary companies. If, for instance, the former dividend of 400 per cent. were resumed, the shares would stand at 10 or 12. Premier Diamond Deferred have had a sharp reaction, falling to a little over 19. Their backers still talk them to 25, and if they are right, now is the time to buy.

Amongst miscellaneous shares, Anglo A's and Portland Cements have risen sharply. Anglo A's have nearly touched 26, and on the certainty of an increased dividend they are said to be worth 33. Cement shares are bid for on the ground that the rebuilding of San Francisco will make a large demand upon the supply of that material.

Quite a sensation has been caused by the rise in the price of tin to over £200 a ton, a record figure in the trade. Engineers and speculators are awaking to the fact that there are valuable deposits of tin in Cornwall, and all the unworked water-logged mines in that county are being hunted up, and reported on. It is true that we are very apt to overlook the wealth that lies at our feet, and to run to the uttermost ends of the earth in its search. Cornish tin propositions have one great advantage: the statements of vendors' experts can be easily and promptly checked.

The Western Dominion Collieries is a Canadian coal company, which issues a prospectus this week, and offers 6 per cent. debentures at 98, with a 4 per cent. commission for underwriting. The coalfields are a going concern, close to the Canadian Pacific Railway, and in the province of Saskatchewan, 280 miles west of Winnipeg. We have been disposed to look askance at some recent Canadian flotations, because they were made by a combination of Montreal and New York financiers, who do not inspire us with confidence. But the Western Dominion Collieries Company has good names on the front page: and it commends itself to us as a sound industrial concern, yielding high, but not suspiciously high, returns.

Among the issues of the week are the Anglo-Japanese Bank Ltd., with a capital of £2,000,000, the Alliance Motor Bus Company Ltd., with a capital of £200,000 and the Delhi Electric Tramways and Lighting Company Ltd., with a capital of £170,000. It is estimated that the profits of the Delhi Company should amount to £15,000, exclusive of the London administration charges, so that there should be some £4,000 to divide after payment of £6 per cent. on the Preferred and Participating and the Ordinary shares. A new issue of £2,000,000 India Three per cent. stock is offered at the minimum price of £94 10s. per cent., and Messrs. J. Henry Schröder and Co. offer at £105 per cent. the remainder—£300,000—of the £1,000,000 $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Debenture stock in the Antofagasta (Chili) and Bolivia Railway Lim., created under the authority of a resolution of the Company two years ago.

INSURANCE "POLICY-TWISTING".

THE American language has some useful expressions.

Among them is the word "twist" to describe the practice by which an agent of one insurance company does the best he can to transfer his connexions to another office from which he has just received an appointment. The practice is regarded as quite reprehensible, and several of the principal companies have entered into a compact to discountenance it. It has been graphically described and strongly denounced by Mr. D. C. Haldeman, who up to the 10th of this month was General Manager of the Mutual of New York, and on the 14th became Joint Manager of the Life branch of the North British and Mercantile. The circular announcing the new appointment invited the British policyholders of the Mutual of New York to transfer their policies to the North British and Mercantile.

This is an attempt at policy-twisting on a very large scale. Mr. Haldeman doubtless considers that it is justifiable policy-twisting. The practice as a whole is so strongly opposed to the fair and economical management of insurance companies, and so completely against the interests of policyholders, that the case for a man endeavouring to transfer his old policyholders to his new company must be overwhelmingly strong before it can be approved. Is there any justification to be found for the present example of twisting? The only possible excuse would be that the policyholders are not safe in the Mutual or that the results that would be given to them by the North British are much better than any that can be expected from the Mutual.

It is quite clear, and it is admitted by everybody, that the Mutual of New York is just as certain to pay all its obligations as any insurance company in the world. There is no hint in any responsible quarter that the position of the Mutual policyholders is insecure. On the other hand it must be admitted that the revelations about the company have caused the policyholders much uneasiness, and it is not unnatural that some of

them should prefer to be assured in a British company rather than in an American office. This however is sentiment not business, but sentiment is a very powerful motive and must not be ignored. We cannot think, however, that it is appropriate to play upon sentiment in such a matter as Life assurance. The only other reason which would justify Mr. Haldeman in twisting the policies from the Mutual to the North British is that the Mutual policyholders would gain by the change. We cannot see any grounds for supposing that this would be the case and certainly nothing resembling proof that it would be so is forthcoming. We should have thought that Mr. Haldeman would have felt bound to give some reasonably detailed evidence upon this point; he must know perfectly well that people in general will attribute his present appointment to the fact that he may be able to bring a large amount of assurance, and a number of good agents to the North British. This may not be the case. The North British might have been glad to appoint him joint general manager, without acquiring a single agent or a single policyholder, but we should have thought that he would have preferred to give detailed proof that the course he recommends to the Mutual policyholders is in their interests. To use the knowledge and power which he obtained at the Mutual, and at the expense of the Mutual, against the interests of the Mutual, and in a way calculated to destroy the company's business in the United Kingdom, demands justification so complete that no critic could find a flaw in the proof, and no sceptic remain unconvinced. Until proof of this kind is forthcoming the Mutual policyholders can scarcely be expected to look to Mr. Haldeman for impartial advice, and certainly no policyholder should make a change until he is completely convinced that it is to his advantage to do so.

It is a significant feature of the situation that one of the great merits of the Mutual of New York makes feasible the scheme of the North British. Since 1898 the Mutual has given remarkably liberal surrender values. Were it not that these surrenders are so good the transfer of policies would not be possible, except at a very serious sacrifice. The Mutual policyholders have found the benefit of these conditions, and one feature that they should certainly consider before changing to the North British is the scale of surrender values which that company will guarantee. Unless the North British is prepared to revolutionise its methods in this respect the policyholders will find themselves much worse off than in the Mutual if they wish to surrender or sell their policies.

SPRING GARDENS.

(Concluded.)

TO return to the "Rummer" tavern, we are now presented with a picture altogether charming; in an upper room, reeking with tobacco-smoke, perched on the back of an old chair, sits a fresh-faced schoolboy, dressed in a sad-colour kersay coat trimmed with flat new-gilded brass buttons, open-breasted waistcoat, and white worsted rowl'd stockings—young Matthew Prior, his bright eyes beaming as he reads his translations into English verse of the "Odes of Horace"; and around, listening with silent admiration and astonishment—their attention diverted for a while from the amenities of the Mall, the Mulberry Gardens, or the "Devil Tavern"—is grouped a party of profligate gallants and beaux brought by the Earl of Dorset.

It is characteristic of those times that the man, eager of riotous and licentious pleasures, who could amaze and disgust Londoners (then, as now, keenly sensitive to indecorum) by appearing with his companions stark naked on the balcony of the "Cock" in Bow Street, and profanely haranguing the crowd in the street—that same man could compose the celebrated song "To all you ladies now on land", on the eve of the sea-fight with the Dutch, in which he displayed conspicuous bravery, and also discern and encourage literary merit. At the tap of the "Rummer" he had one day found young Prior deep in his favourite Horace and, fascinated by the lad's earnest voice and the spirit of his renderings,

he not only brought his friends to hear his protégé, but gave him the means of studying at Cambridge and making a fair start in life.

So, himself a poet, we see Dorset sitting spellbound by the younger poet and leading the applause; while at the open door stands the vintner uncle, a laden tray in his hands, with gaping mouth and a stupid but kindly smile on his red face, as he hears the words which he cannot understand. Thus, interrupted at intervals by the sounds of the boors regaling below, or accompanied, perhaps, now and then, by the plaintive flute or harp of some passing street minstrel, the boy proceeds with his free version of the master:

"Virtue to verse immortal lustre gives,
Each by the other's mutual friendship lives;
Æneas suffer'd and Achilles fought,
The hero's acts enlarg'd the poet's thought,
Or Virgil's majesty and Homer's rage
Had ne'er like lasting nature vanquish'd age."

Glancing back, once more, another generation or so, we find our Garden graced by a poet great as any of these. Citizens who are astir as early as four o'clock of a summer's morning can perceive a figure neatly dressed in black, sitting at the casement of his lodging at "one Thompson's—next to the Bull Head Tavern." 'Tis that of Oliver Cromwell's Latin secretary—John Milton. He is dictating his defence of the Lord Protector, "the greatest and most glorious of our countrymen, the leader of unconquered armies, the father of your country; for by that title does every good man hail you with sincere and voluntary praise"; or replying to acrimonious theological invectives with invectives more acrimonious still; or else playing upon his organ; or swinging in his chair, his leg hanging over the arm, lost in thought.

Indeed this may well have been the house where, a few years later, he was to be seen sometimes, when the weather was warm and sultry, sitting before his door, in a grey coat of coarse cloth, enjoying the open air and listening to passages from his favourite authors: Spenser, Shakespeare, Ovid and Euripides; or receiving the friends to whom he dictated, in parcels of ten, twenty or thirty verses at a time, the work which his countrymen "should not willingly let die"; or at other times, alone, silent, grasping chalk stones in his gouty hands, his hair, parted at the foretop, hanging down upon his shoulders in clusters in which the silver threads were beginning to outnumber the brown, his beautiful face turned upwards, his mind—now that his eyes were closed for ever to worldly conflicts—soaring to the regions where the falling angels fight with God, and Paradise is Lost and Won again.

It was during the Commonwealth that the cluster of houses which to this day are named Spring Gardens began to be erected. For Cromwell seized upon and shut up the famous pleasure-ground which bore that name, and the site was rapidly built over.

"To the old Spring Garden", says Pepys in 1662, "and there walked long, and the wenches gathered pinks. Here we staid, and seeing that we could not have anything to eat, we went forth to the new one, where I never was before, which much exceeds the other". This new Spring Garden to which he alludes was at Lambeth. To it all the fashionable gaieties were transferred. It was afterwards called "Vauxhall".

A little earlier Evelyn noted that he had "collationed in Spring Garden", and it is probably his pen that draws the following picture of the spot: "The manner is, as the company returns from Hyde Park, to alight at the Spring Garden . . . the inclosure not disagreeable, for the solemnness of the grove, the warbling of the birds, and as it opens into the spacious walks at St. James's; but the company walk in it at such a rate, you would think that all the ladies were so many Atalantas contending with their wooers. . . . It is usual here to find some of the company till midnight; and the thickets and the garden seem to be contrived to all advantages of gallantry, after they have been refreshed with the collation which is here seldom omitted, at a certain cabaret, in the middle of this paradise, where the forbidden fruits are certain trifling tarts, neat's tongues, salacious meats, and bad Rhenish—"

Yet another look into the past, and we find the space

a bowling-green, laid out by order of Charles I. "There was kept in it an ordinary of 6 shillings a meal, continual bibbing and drinking wine all day under the trees; two or three quarrels every week. It was grown scandalous and insufferable."

Six years before occurred the curious scene related by Disraeli in his "Curiosities of Literature": "The King and the Duke were in the Spring Gardens looking on the bowlers; the Duke put on his hat; one Wilson, a Scotchman, first kissing the Duke's hands, snatched it off, saying: 'Off with your hat before the King'. Buckingham, not apt to restrain his quick feelings, kicked the Scotchman; but the King, interfering, said: 'Let him alone, George; he is either mad or a fool'. 'No, Sir', replied the Scotchman, 'I am a sober man; and, if your Majesty would give me leave, I will tell you that of this man which many know and none dare speak!' This was, as a prognostic, an anticipation of the dagger of Felton."

In 1614, when James was on the throne, payment had been made "for two clucking henns to sett upon pheasant eggs" in the Garden; and, thirteen years earlier, a charge "for a scaffold erected against the Park Wall in the Tilt Yard for the 'Countie Egmond' to see the tilters".

That takes us to the distant days of great Elizabeth and it is not till then that we come to the Fons et Origo of the name Spring Garden—"so called from a jet or spring of water sprung with the pressure of the foot and wetted whoever was foolish or ignorant enough to tread upon it".

"In a garden joining to the Palace of Whitehall there is a jet d'eau with a sundial at which while strangers are looking, a quantity of water forced by a wheel which the gardener turns at a distance through a number of little pipes, plentifully sprinkles those that are standing round."

Our last look reveals nothing but a marsh, and through the mist which shrouds it a flight of wild fowl bursts with a loud whirr. Then the fog—not so yellow, perhaps, but as thick as that of modern London—settles, impenetrable, on the spot, and no lantern, whatever its magic power, can guide our eyes beyond it.

A NOTE ON THE BALLET.

BALLET, as an art-form, inspires me with less of delight than of affectionate interest. It was at its perihelion in the time of our fathers. And for all men the time of their fathers is the most delicious time of all—just near enough to be intelligible, just far enough to seem impossible. I am glad I never saw Grisi, glad I never saw Taglioni. Their names would not make such music for me, had the vision been vouchsafed. Nor would those pale-tinted portraits of them, still to be seen in out-of-the-way places—Taglioni floating through a glade; Grisi impinging the boards with the tip of one foot—touch so agreeably in my bosom the chords of pathos. I am glad the tradition of the ballet has not been lost. I like to see the "haute école" not quite disestablished, after all these years, by skirt-dancers and cake-walkers. But the æsthete in me rejoices less than the sentimentalist. As a representation of life, ballet fails for me. I am a writer, and thus a lover of words, and where no words are is a void for me. At least, there is a void where words might have been but are not. In a painting I do not feel the need of words, for they are excluded by the nature of the art. But they are not excluded thus from ballet. Their exclusion, the substitution of mere gesture, is quite arbitrary. There is no essential reason why ballet should not, like opera, have words. It gains nothing by the sacrifice, and (for me) loses nearly all. There is (so far as I, in a theatre, am concerned) no reality in a wordless representation of life. And, however fantastic be a representation of life, it ought to awaken a sense of reality—a fantastic sense of reality. Ballet not merely gives me no illusion: it conveys no meaning to me. Here, I admit, its failure is due partly to a defect in myself. A man ought to be able to master the meanings of formalised gesture. When a ballerina lays the palms of her hands against her left cheek, and then, snatching them away, regards them with

an air of mild astonishment, and then, swaying slightly backwards, touches her forehead with her finger-tips, and then suddenly extends both arms above her head, I ought of course to be privy to her innermost meaning. I ought to have a thorough grasp of her exact state of mind. Friends have often explained to me, with careful demonstrations, the significance of the various gestures that are used in ballet; and these gestures are not very many; and I have more than once committed them to memory, hoping that, though I could never be illuded, I might at least be not bemused. But, after all this trouble, the next ballet that I have seen has teased and puzzled me as unkindly as ever. Is it that gestures were given to the ballerina to conceal her thoughts? Or is it merely that the quickness of the hand deceives the eye? Unable to catch for one fleeting instant the drift of the lady's meaning, I concentrate myself on her merely visual aspect. And here, again, I am disappointed. Of course it is very wonderful that a woman should be fashioned—or rather, should have contrived to fashion herself—thus. How many hours (I have often asked myself), on how many cold grey mornings, and in what large, bare, locked room, at the back of what house, must have gone to the making of this strange shape? Nature is not, of course, a conscious artist. She aims at usefulness, not at beauty. The reason why arms are sligher than legs is not, I presume, that any first principle in beauty demands that they should be so. Arms are sligher than legs because they have not to sustain the burden of the body. And thus we, who know no first principle in beauty, and derive our ideas of beauty through what we know to be useful, would be really repelled at sight of a woman whose arms preponderated over her legs. Such a phenomenon might be achieved if a woman were trained from childhood to walk on the palms of her hands. Suppose, on the contrary, a woman who had been trained from childhood not to use her hands and arms for any purpose whatsoever. She, too, would be unsightly. The meagreness of her arms, in proportion to the rest of her, would seem to us unlovely. And yet her arms would be not more meagre in proportion to her legs than are the arms in proportion to the legs of a ballerina. I do not say that the structure of a ballerina is an offence against abstract beauty; for I have no means of knowing what abstract beauty is. But certainly this structure jars my æsthetic sense, as being an obvious deviation from what is natural. It is natural enough that a woman should dance sometimes, just as it is natural that she should walk, sit, lie down. But it is unnatural that dancing should be the business of her life. And Nature takes vengeance by destroying her symmetry, by making her ridiculous. Poor ballerina! Is it for this that she has been toiling, toiling, day by day, in that large, bare, back-room—toiling to become physically ridiculous? That is a question that has often asked itself in my brain during the performance of a ballet. All those trippings, and pirouettes, and posturings at incredible angles, are very wonderful, of course, and are paid for at a very high rate. If the ballerina is not extravagant, she will be able to retire into private life, with a comfortable income, before old age shall have overtaken her. She will be able to cease to be ridiculous. Meanwhile my heart goes out to her. It comes in again quickly. There had been no need to pity her. Regret is all that was needed. Such power of thought as she may once have had was long since absorbed into her toes. She does not know that she is ridiculous. Her fixed smile is no assumption to hide an aching heart. She really fancies that she is admirable, admired. And so she is, in the way that a performing dog is admirable, admired. It is wonderful that a dog can learn to behave more or less like a human being. It is wonderful that a human being can learn to cut capers seemingly beyond human power. But dog and human being alike cause in us—in those of us, at least, who are a little thoughtful—more of sorrow than of pleasure. My sentimentalism rejoices in the survival of the ballet. But my humanitarianism is revolted by the survival of the ballerina. . . . Mlle. Genée? Ah no; I grant an exception there. No monstrous automaton is that young lady. Perfect though she is in the "haute école", she has by some miracle

preserved her own self. She was born a comedian, and a comedian she remains, light and liberal as foam. A mermaid were not a more surprising creature than she—she of whom one half is as that of an authentic ballerina, whilst the other is that of a most intelligent, most delightfully human actress. A mermaid were, indeed, less marvellous in our eyes. She would not be able to defuse any semblance of humanity into her tail. Mlle. Genée's intelligence seems to vibrate to her very toes. Her dancing, strictliest classical though it is, is a part of her acting. And her acting, moreover, is of so fine a quality that she makes the old ineloquent conventions of gesture tell their meanings to me, and tell them so exquisitely that I quite forget my craving for words. In "Coppélia", which is now being enacted at the Empire, Mlle. Genée has a longer and better part than she has yet played. And the delight she gives us is accordingly greater than ever. . . . Taglioni in "Les Arabesques"? I suspect, in my heart of hearts, she was no better than a doll. Grisi in "Giselle"? She may, or may not, have been passable. Genée! It is a name that our grandchildren will cherish, even as we cherish now the names of those bygone dancers. And alas! our grandchildren will never believe, will never be able to imagine, what Genée was. MAX BEERBOHM.

UNIVERSITY CRICKET PROSPECTS.

THE man who in May prophesies as to what is to happen in July is bold; but he need not be anxious: when July comes he can be sure that everybody will have forgotten his inspired utterance save himself, and he will reflect moreover to his satisfaction and comfort that if certainty could be reached, if the merits of two given sides could be estimated by marks, cricket would have lost its beauty and the talkative man in the pavilion his recreation. It is because in cricket the wise have so often been wrong and the fools so often been right that cricket is so garrulous a game: in cricket no stigma is attached to error, no great credit to truth: the precise result is inscrutable in all matches and especially in a University match.

The University match is unique: it is the one first-class match to which all the preliminary matches of two cricket teams in two different places lead, for which all those other matches serve but as a training; it is a match the winning or losing of which means the success or failure of the season, whatever the previous record. So everybody who likes cricket or his University asks, as soon as the University summer term begins, who will win at Lord's, and himself generally supplies the answer.

Oxford, probably the stronger side, was last year beaten after a memorable match by the weaker. This year it looks as if Oxford will have the chance of doing in 1906 what was done to them in 1905, for on paper and performance Oxford will almost certainly this year take the field the weaker side. For long Oxford has been pining for a bowler: this season has produced so far no new pre-eminent cunning. A considerable quantity of rather ordinary right-hand medium bowling, no slow bowler, right hand or left, and no one fast. Those who bowled last year will have to bowl again, Mr. Udal and Mr. Branston, and they may be helped somewhat by Mr. Gorell-Barnes, a medium-paced left-hand bowler, and Mr. Lyon who is steady. There is nothing brilliant in this, no very disturbing variety: Mr. Barnes bowls many bad balls before he reaches a good one, Mr. Lyon relies almost entirely on a ball which goes away. A slow left-hander or a leg-break bowler would be invaluable. As to the batting there is a fair amount of pretty equal quality. Mr. Foster, who will not play much till the University match, has the family gifts. Mr. Wright is a fine eager player, at his best in a big match: Mr. Branston is rather uncertain. There are recruits in Mr. Butterworth, Mr. Payne and Mr. Gordon: Mr. Gordon, a Freshman from Winchester, is a free strong player, Mr. Payne's main strength lies in his onside strokes, while Mr. Butterworth has the freedom all-round which racquets seem to give. Mr. Barnes is useful: he is indeed probably a better bat than bowler, and it is time that Oxford had a left-handed bat to avenge all the trouble which Cambridge

has inflicted in the past by the hands of Mr. Hinde. Mr. Bird, the captain, seems a greatly improved wicket-keeper—but in batting he embodies the painful Mr. Findlay tradition, so inornamental but so serviceable. On the whole then, though it is early to speak, there will be nothing very remarkable about the Oxford side. The batting will be attractive, if not very sound—the batsmen at present are too fond of beautiful strokes—while the bowling will be much what it was last year, if anything somewhat weaker, for Mr. Evans is gone. Mr. Udal will be the mainstay, terrific rather than scientific, and Mr. Branston, who has a fine easy action, his greatest support. Who the other bowlers will be over and above Mr. Lyon and Mr. Barnes is still dark. Mr. Curwen, Mr. Fyffe, Mr. Lyle, Mr. Horleck, Mr. Peel, and Mr. Gilbert seem the best.

At Cambridge on the other hand there is the embarrassment which riches are supposed to cause. With Cambridge it is not a question of discovery but a question of selection. There is all the bowling of last year—Mr. Napier, Mr. May, and Mr. Morcom. There is one bowler of the year before last, Mr. Hopley. Still, as at Oxford, there is no typical left-hand bowler and no very good slow right-hand bowler. Mr. Napier and Mr. May have just accomplished a great performance against Yorkshire, and they are certainly better than any bowlers at Oxford, while Mr. Morcom is probably quite as good. In bowling then Cambridge have a great superiority; what of the batting? Probably the answer must be the same, though not quite so definitely the same. Cambridge have the superiority. Mr. Young, who has not yet found his game, is bound to be very dangerous. He has served a distinguished apprenticeship in county cricket: Mr. Eyre, the captain, has made a century against Yorkshire. Mr. Keigwin is just the steady bat whom Oxford lacks. He is no stylist, quite content to go his own pace, and while he bats, the spectator from Oxford will do well to go and have his lunch. Mr. Buchanan, a Charterhouse Freshman, has a great reputation, and Mr. Payne and Mr. Page are both dashing and experienced players. Lastly should anything befall Mr. Payne as a wicket-keeper, Mr. Imlay is ready with exceptional gifts. Cambridge in fact seem as a side to have returned to the golden age; but not so Oxford. Oxford has not returned, and, if one may judge from what the Freshmen's match revealed, is not even returning.

The question however is the University match of 1906. If an enumeration of the virtues of the players means anything, Cambridge should repeat last year's victory; if superstition means anything, Cambridge should also win, for Mr. Eyre has never been on the losing side at Lord's. But in the University match neither virtue nor superstition is omnipotent. Even if Yorkshire has given Cambridge cricket such a "fillip" (for that is now the right phrase for the vanquished to mete out to the victor) as to make them apparently irresistible to the end of the season, nevertheless Mr. Bird will enter the field with the bracing and more comfortable feeling that not everybody expects his side to win, though many may nurse that hope in secret. Cricket is cricket, and what happened in 1905 may happen in 1906.

THE RECREATION OF JOHN STUART MILL.

LITTLE do the readers of "Principles of Political Economy" suspect that John Stuart Mill—the centenary of whose birth falls on May 20—was a rare lover and seeker of wild flowers; and that to the study of them after "the bitter calamity" of his wife's death, he turned for solace and interest in his home at Avignon. There are, it is true, several allusions in his "Autobiography" to his "love of rural objects and natural scenery", to which, he tells us, he was indebted for much of the pleasure of his life. He notes his earliest recollections of "green fields and wild flowers" associated with the lanes about Hornsey, then an almost rustic neighbourhood. At the age of seven he accompanied his father on an excursion into Devonshire, where he acquired his "first taste for natural scenery". His discovery as a young man of Wordsworth he

regarded as "an important event in his life", so deeply did the poet's teaching appeal to his own love of nature. For many years Mill would pass his Sundays in "taking long rural walks" in the neighbourhood of London; while his month's holiday from the India House was usually spent in walking tours, alone or with friends. This much we learn from his "Autobiography", but no hint is given as to the purpose of those expeditions, beyond the love of country life. We find, however, from the pages of "The Phytologist", an obscure botanical miscellany the first number of which appeared in 1844 and to which John Stuart Mill occasionally contributed, that he was at that time, and had been for many years, an ardent field-botanist, delighting in long country rambles in order to find rare plants.

His interest in botany dated from a visit of some months' duration which, when a lad of fifteen, he paid to Sir Samuel Bentham at his château in the South of France. Sir Samuel's only son was George Bentham, whose "Handbook of the British Flora" is well known, and it was under his influence and guidance that John Stuart Mill began that fascinating study in which he afterwards found such unending delight. On his return to England a fresh zest was thus added to those long country walks to which from early childhood he had been accustomed; and he began to form the valuable collection of British plants which he afterwards presented to the Royal Museum at Kew. His botanical researches in England were chiefly in Surrey and Hants, where he made many and, in some instances, notable discoveries. Indeed the "Flora of Surrey" owes much of its interest, from a literary standpoint, to its intimate association with John Stuart Mill. In 1822, soon after his return from France, Mill, a lad of sixteen, found the strange plant *Impatiens fulva*, or the Tawny Touch-me-not, growing sparingly on the banks of the Wey near Guildford. This seems to have been the earliest record of this beautiful North American balsam with orange-yellow flowers spotted with red, in this country. How the plant originally found its way to Surrey is unknown, but it quickly settled there. Writing some years later Mill speaks of it as abundant for many miles by the side of the Wey both above and below Guildford, and as "equally abundant on the banks of the Tillingbourne, especially at Chilworth, where it grows in boundless profusion." It is well to know that this naturalised species still flourishes in Surrey in several spots, although, strange to say, it does not seem to have spread beyond the county.

Another rare and most interesting plant recorded by Mill, and still to be found where he discovered it, is the woad, concerning which "Cæsar saith", in the language of old Gerarde, "that all the Brittons do colour themselves with woad, which giveth a blew colour". This famous plant, associated with our earliest history, is now only to be found, in a truly wild state, in one place in England, where on some almost perpendicular cliffs overlooking the river Severn it flourishes as it did in the days of the ancient Britons. But in several places the woad, like the American balsam, has become naturalised, and among these must be reckoned Mill's locality. On 1 June, 1841, he found it "growing in prodigious luxuriance in the chalk-quarries close to the town of Guildford". It grows, he adds, "in many instances out of clefts in the precipitous chalk cliff, and makes almost a bush of flowers from the same root". The woad happily remains, and every summer its fine crowded panicles of yellow blossom may be seen in the Guildford quarries; but many of the choice plants which gladdened the eyes of our philosopher only half a century ago have now become exceedingly scarce, while some, it is to be feared, have disappeared. In his day the splendid Royal fern, *Osmunda regalis*, now seldom met with in the south of England, grew in the swampy woods north of Coldharbour, near Dorking, so as to form "large and tall thickets visible at a great distance". It would now be difficult, perhaps impossible, to find a single plant. Among our British orchids, of which we have in all some thirty-seven species, the Man-orchis (*Aceras anthropophora*) ranks with the choicest and most rare. But in the middle of the last century it appears to have been fairly common. Indeed Mill records it as growing "pro-

fusely on Colley and Buckland Hills, and between Box Hill and Juniper Hill", and in other localities in the neighbourhood. This fine plant has now become very scarce in Surrey, while from Hampshire it has, it is to be feared, quite gone.

"Some few years before 1841" Mill made a botanical expedition into the New Forest, where he noticed and recorded many curious plants. Among these may be mentioned the beautiful Grass-of-Parnassus which he saw growing in "various parts of the Forest". Strange to say, this record remains unverified. Never by any other botanist has the Grass-of-Parnassus been found in the Forest. Can it have disappeared, or was the philosopher mistaken? If the visit took place in the spring before the plant was in flower, it is not impossible that the leaves of the small marsh Valerian were mistaken for those of the Grass-of-Parnassus. Such a mistake by a well-equipped botanist is actually on record. But if doubt may be cast upon the discovery of Parnassia, it is not so with another scarce plant which Mill found in the Isle of Wight. On the sandy shore of Sandown Bay he came across a single specimen of the Purple Spurge. This rare Atlantic species, found only in Great Britain in one or two spots in Cornwall and South Wales, had never before been met with so far eastwards. But there is no doubt as to its identity. Mill gave the plant to the author of "The Flora Vectensis", and it is still preserved—the most interesting specimen alike on account of its rarity and its finder—in the collection of Island plants in the Bromfield Herbarium at Ryde.

After the sudden death of his wife at Avignon in 1839 John Stuart Mill bought a cottage as close as possible to the place of her burial, and there he chiefly lived during the rest of his life. The rich neighbourhood of his new home was as carefully searched for rare and beautiful species as had been Hampshire and Surrey in former years. He gathered together a large amount of material with a view to publishing a "Flora of Avignon"; and only three days before his death walked fifteen miles on a wild-flower expedition.

In thus finding a recreation in botany, John Stuart Mill shared with many other distinguished men a simple taste which is marvellously fascinating to those who have it at all. The "Confessions" of Rousseau contain a number of passages in which the philosopher dwells with affection upon the pursuit which brought him unending solace and pleasure. Goethe may be added to the same roll of happy enthusiasts. The poems of Crabbe afford abundant evidence of the diversion which beguiled the somewhat dreary life of the author of "The Borough". Arnold of Rugby used to say "wild flowers are my music", and in one of his letters he speaks of the deep delight with which he looked at wood-anemones or wood-sorrel, "loving them as a child loves them". Readers of Dr. Hort's "Life and Letters" will remember the keen interest which this great Biblical critic took in the Alpine flora around Saas-Fee. These men, as the old herbalist would say, were "diligent searchers after simples", and the search refreshed them unforgettably.

CHANTREY "REFORM".

WHEN the Committee of the House of Lords issued its report on the Chantrey Inquiry I did not conceal my conviction that more radical measures were desirable to secure a proper use of the fund. The report, however, cleared away all doubt as to the interpretation of the Trust and made responsibilities clear. Moreover the definite recommendation was made of a change in machinery which would bring responsibility more strongly home to the individuals composing the selecting committee by reducing their number, render it a more easily acting body and introduce a fresh and younger element. The recommendation was that instead of the Academy Council of Ten a Committee of Three should be appointed to select, and that one of the three should be an Associate. Last May the Academy had not yet replied to these recommendations, though some temporary modification was made in the old system. One of the purchases was generally

approved, that of Charles Furse's "Return from the Ride", but any novelty in this purchase arose from the fact that a characteristic work by an able painter within the Academy had been chosen, and that it had been exhibited, not in the current exhibition, but in that of the preceding year. For the rest visits were made to such other exhibitions as happened to be open at the moment, and the remaining purchases, inside and outside of the Academy, were as unsatisfactory as before, for the best of them, Mr. Aumonier's landscape, was the work of an artist already represented.

This, however, might be set down as a transitional or interim choice. Later in the year it was announced that the Academy had decided so far to meet the recommendation of the Lords' Committee that in future two Committees of Three would be appointed (for Painting and Sculpture), not with absolute powers of choice, but to recommend works of art to the Council. This reform might mean much or it might mean nothing. It might mean that there was a sincere desire to better the procedure and the selection while avoiding the necessity of formally altering the machinery set up by Chantrey. Or it might mean that a show of meeting the Committee's requirements was to be made while the power was reserved to nullify any change in the spirit or results of the old administration. This would depend on two things, the spirit and qualifications of the Committees of Three, and whether their recommendations were accepted or vetoed. I made no comment at the time, for I had no desire to prejudice the new departure by expressing misgivings. It seemed fairer to wait and judge by results, all the more that the reform party in the Academy showed in other ways (for example the election of two excellent engraver associates, Messrs. Strang and Short) some power to influence its action.

The Committee of Three appointed for Painting also gave some hope, in its personnel, that a change of spirit was to be looked for. One of them, Sir W. B. Richmond, was understood to be a leader of reform and had been particularly outspoken at the Chantrey inquiry; the second, Mr. Clausen (an Associate), had impressed everyone, in his Academy lectures, by the breadth and sanity of his views. The third, Mr. David Murray may perhaps not unkindly be regarded as a counterpoise supplied to the spirit of change, but in any case reform had a working majority. It was rumoured, moreover, that the Committee took its duties very seriously and did not limit itself to the old perfunctory and casual inquiries in the opening week of the Academy. It was hoped, then, that after all, the present year might be a turning-point in the history of the Trust.

The list of purchases made is as follows:—

David Farquharson, A.R.A.	"Birnam Wood"	(Academy).
G. D. Leslie, R.A.	"The Deserted Mill"	(Academy).
Frank Craig	"The Heretic"	(Academy).
R. Anning Bell,	"The Garden of Sweet Sounds"	(Old Water-Colour Society).

From the year's exhibitions, then, (to which, I suppose, as of old, the review was limited), three pictures have been selected in the Royal Academy; the fourth is by an artist who exhibits a similar work in the Royal Academy. This watercolour represents all the research outside. Of their quality it may be briefly said that none of them is a first-rate example even of the year's showing, and that the two works by Academicians are, as in many other cases, not very good examples of the painters, one of whom, moreover, (Mr. Farquharson) is already represented in the Chantrey collection. Mr. Farquharson's landscape work at its best has considerable merits; but even at its best no impartial critic will pretend that two examples were called for in the National Gallery, out of this meagre fund. For this second example £1,500 has been paid. We are aware that the Academy lays particular stress on the phrase in Chantrey's will about "liberal" prices, but one cannot help asking what is the relation of this extraordinary price to what the picture would fetch in the open market? The same sum, judiciously expended, would secure five or six pictures by non-Academicians of outstanding talent. As to Mr. Leslie, I do not think any of us would be inclined to complain if his staid and gentle art had been well represented;

but the present purchase has too much the air of a consolation prize. Mr. Anning Bell is a designer of some gift; but here once more the Fund, which has steadfastly neglected the masters of a school, pays honour to a minor if graceful derivative. The purchase of Mr. Frank Craig's picture is the least excusable, for it is not only derivative, but its remarkable cleverness makes its fundamental vulgarity a worse example.

I have understated, rather than overstated the case, and I think no qualified and impartial observer can avoid the conclusion that the new machinery has failed, and that the vicious tradition of the Trust remains unbroken. Whether that is the result of an over-riding of the Committee of Three's recommendations by the Council can only be conjectured, since the transactions are private. We cannot fairly blame the Committee, since the responsibility is not theirs; the old defect of divided and obscure responsibility remains.

But, it may be argued, perhaps "Jupiter was too poor", there may have been no better pictures in or out of the Academy this year to buy! The answer is that there is no compulsion to buy at all in any given year. But without pressing that point, let us inquire whether there were no better pictures, and first, in the Academy itself. I cannot pretend to think that the choice in the Academy is large, but I can easily point to two or three pictures, which without being very great, are in one way or another of fine quality. I take first a landscape, Mr. Buxton Knight's "Winter Sunshine" (156). Mr. Buxton Knight is an unequal painter, but from time to time in the last fifteen years he has done a really good thing, and this example, with its honest colour and large vision, looks different in kind from most of the work that surrounds it. Mr. Lorimer's picture "Hush!" (712) is another. It deals with a subject often enough made intolerable, but there is something clean and rare in Mr. Lorimer's spirit that gives intent simplicity to the fond action of the bending mother and discovers beauty in the helplessly turned body and hands of the little child. The silent summer light flooding into the bare room and the congregation of doves perched and peering at the open window conspire imaginatively with the brooding sentiment of the subject. The nerve of the drawing and harmony of outside and inside fall short through a certain timidity of eye, but there is something in the air of this piece that can be called religious.* Mr. George Henry's picture is a third that might be named. If he might still pray for something of the power of precise vision of his neighbour Mr. Bacon without wishing to use it as Mr. Bacon does, Mr. Henry makes a remarkable advance in this work. He has secured a pictorial rhythm and unity of tone, fundamentals lacking in most of the pictures exhibited. A fourth painter, familiar enough, but still unrecognized, is Mr. Mark Fisher.

If we turn from the Academy itself and review the work of the year outside of it, the choice of pictures actually made must seem more extraordinary still. Throughout the Chantrey controversy I made a rule of limiting discussion to the treatment of dead artists and of veterans so thoroughly recognised that no difference of opinion could arise about their claim to consideration. I brought forward no names of contemporaries, however glaring their omission from the National Collection. If I break through that reserve now, I am convinced that Mr. Clausen, Mr. Sargent, Mr. East, and other candid and open-minded painters in the Academy, will not dispute what I am going to say. I might name several artists who specially distinguished themselves in the course of the year, but I will take as typical one who has done so year by year increasingly, I mean Mr. Steer. I have for some time now written no criticism of contemporary work, so that my voice has counted for nothing recently, and I have been interested to notice that critics who had not been so ready as myself to think very highly of him are at last fully convinced and spontaneously call for his recognition. In my own view Mr. Steer has long been accounted one of the

* Two works by Mr. Lorimer are in the Luxembourg; nothing in London galleries.

first of living painters, (I do not know quite how high the artists I have named would rank him, but very high, I have not the slightest doubt), and of this judgment there has recently come confirmation from an unexpected quarter. The Uffizi Gallery has invited him, along with Mr. Holman Hunt and Mr. Sargent, to paint his portrait for its collection of famous painters. Shall we in England begin to be a little ashamed of the fact that an Italian, if he comes to England to see the work of these renowned painters, will look in vain for two of them in the National Collection? These two are the two who are not Academicians, and in that sentence the verdict on the Chantrey administration in the past is repeated for the present. The purchase of a picture by Mr. Steer or some other talented outsider would have convinced us that an effort was being made towards better and fairer administration.

The change of machinery, then, within the Academy appears to have altered nothing. A more radical change is called for, and in my judgment this question should now form part of a wider inquiry, how, namely, the Royal Academy can best be reorganised on a truly national basis.

D. S. MACCOLL.

BRIDGE.

THE EVOLUTION OF THE GAME.

THE real origin of bridge is somewhat shrouded in mystery. The game is said to have originated in Russia, but there is no satisfactory proof of this statement. It was first known under the title of "Biritch, or Russian Whist", and this, no doubt, gave rise to the idea that it was of Russian origin, although, as a matter of fact, the word "Biritch" is not to be found in any Russian dictionary. Many years ago the Russians played a game called "ieralasch", or "ieralache", which closely resembled the game of short whist without a trump suit. From this foundation, arose the more scientific games of "Siberia" and "Preference", both of which had certain points in common with our game of bridge, but there the connexion ceases.

There is no record whatever of the transformation of any of these Russian games into anything approaching modern bridge. The game, as we play it, is far more likely to have been of Levantine origin. It was certainly played, very much in its present form, some forty years ago, in Eastern Europe, notably in Constantinople and in Greece, and, if there were any necessity to assign to it a definite nationality, we should not hesitate to award the honour to Greece.

The prevalent idea that bridge was unknown in England up to the time of its introduction at the Portland Club in 1894 is an entirely mistaken one. It was quite unknown in Clubland, but there is indisputable evidence of its having been known and regularly played in private circles for many years prior to that date (1894).

It is stated in the supplement to the ninth edition of the Encyclopædia Britannica that the game of bridge was first introduced into England in the year 1880, but no information is given as to who furnished this statement, or as to what authority, if any, there is for it.

We have received a letter—for which we are greatly indebted—from an English gentleman of Greek extraction, now resident in London, in which we are assured that the writer can remember the game of bridge, very much in its present form, being regularly played among a colony of Greeks, settled in Manchester, of whom his own father was one, as far back as the seventies of the last century. The only important point of difference between the game as it was then played and as it is played now was, that the value of No Trumps was ten points per trick instead of 12, and that the four aces in one hand counted 80 above the line instead of 100 as at present. Also, the lead of a heart, in answer to a double of No Trumps by the leader's partner, which is commonly supposed to have originated in America, was the general custom. There was no agreed-upon convention on the subject, but, when there was any possible doubt in the leader's mind as to which suit his partner wanted led, it was

the invariable custom to lead a heart. The short-suit convention had not then been heard of. That was probably a purely English convention of later days.

It seems evident that the Greeks cannot be a proselytising nation, for, just as the game of bridge took upwards of twenty years to spread from Greece to Western Europe, so these Greeks, who played the game so many years ago in England, do not appear to have been anxious to gain converts in this country, but were content to go on playing it among themselves, and it seems to have been confined exclusively to these small coteries.

In the year 1886, a small pamphlet was printed in London, entitled "Biritch, or Russian Whist". There is said to be only one copy of this pamphlet in existence, and that is in the library of the British Museum (press mark 7913 aa 51). It gives a very attenuated description of the game, with the method of scoring and a few laws as to declaring, passing the declaration, &c., but again we are without available information as to who framed these laws, or by whose authority they were published. As the game is there described, the most valuable declaration, corresponding to our present call of "No Trumps", was "Biritch", or playing without trumps, and the value of this call was again 10 points per trick instead of 12, and also four aces in one hand counted 80 not 100. The winners of the rubber added 40 points to their score, instead of 100 points as in our present game, and this extra score was called "Consolation".

There can be no doubt that the score for No Trumps ought to be 10 points per trick and not 12, as that is following the regular upward sequence of the suit declarations, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10; and also, if the value of the tricks at No Trumps is to be 12 points, why should the honour score for aces not be also 12 points instead of 10? When, or why, or how, or by whom the change was made is quite unknown. When the game was first introduced at the Portland Club we were certainly told that the value of No Trumps was 12 points per trick, and the error, if error it was, must somehow have crept in accidentally.

EDUCATION BY CHESS.

THE efforts of the leading chess players in Ireland—Sir Horace Plunkett, Mr. J. H. Parnell, Dr. Traill and others—to treat chess as an important factor in education will be watched with interest all over the world. In addition to the technicality of the game, its history and philosophy as well as the personal equation are to receive consideration. It is noteworthy that this interesting experiment should originate in a country which so far has not produced any really great chess player.

To mark the beginning of this new era, the following consultation game was played at the Sackville Chess Club, Dublin. While it would not be safe to make any general deduction from a single game the whole of it bears evidence of that impetuosity which is associated with the Irish race.

KING'S GAMBIT (ACCEPTED).

White	Black	White	Black
Mr. Greenan's	Mr. Nash's	Mr. Greenan's	Mr. Nash's
Party	Party	Party	Party
1. P-K4	P-K4	2. P-KB4	P x P

This opening denotes the ardent desire of both sides to come to grips as early as possible.

3. Kkt-B3	P-KKt4	6. P x P	P x P
4. P-Q4	B-Kt2	7. R x R	B x R
5. P-KR4	P-KR3		

With a greater knowledge of the principles underlying this opening, the white allies would not have simplified the position so soon. Their move of P-KR4 was ill-timed. It was a move too late for the Allgaier type of opening and much too early for the ordinary King's Gambit.

8. Q-K2 . . .

This is an original way of preventing P-Q4. But as it retards the development of white's own pieces, it cannot be worth much.

8. . . .	P-Q3	11. B-Q2	Q-K2
9. P-B3	Kt-QB3	12. Castles	P-R3
10. Kt-R3	B-Kt5		

Castles at once, followed up with P-Q4, seems to leave black with an extra pawn and the better position; seeing that black can castle on this side only, this move is exceptionally bad. Of course it prevents Kt or Q to Kt5, but it is much better to do something definite than to take steps to prevent an imaginary blow. As a matter of fact, black's position is worse than if no move had been made.

- | | | | |
|----------|---------|-----------|---------|
| 13. Q-B4 | Castles | 16. Q-R4 | Kt-QKt1 |
| 14. B-Q3 | BxKt | 17. P-Kt5 | ... |
| 15. PxB | Kt-B3 | | |

From this point white's play is perfect. Determined that success can only result from persistent attack, pawns are properly treated as mere trifles.

- | | | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|------|
| 17. ... | PxP | 22. B-K1 | K-Q1 |
| 18. B-B5ch | Kt(B3)-Q2 | 23. B-B2 | B-B1 |
| 19. P-Q5 | Q-B3 | 24. Kt-R5 | K-B1 |
| 20. Q-K4 | B-Kt2 | 25. B-R7 | R-Q1 |
| 21. Kt-B4 | R-K1 | | |

The black allies have moved the pieces about here and there without any plan except satisfying the immediate necessity, and their position is practically the same as occurred on the twentieth move. Yet, as will be seen at the critical stage of the game, the white allies have been unable to recuperate sufficiently from the effects of the very early part of the game.

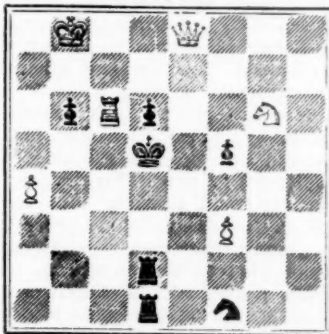
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|---------------|-------|-----------|------|
| 26. BxKt(Kt1) | KxB | 28. PxPch | KxP |
| 27. P-Q6 | Kt-B4 | 29. RxR | KtxQ |

White has offered the queen for two pieces. But that is no reason why the black allies should have accepted it when by KxR they would have placed white on the defensive, with the additional disadvantage of having two pawns less. The white allies win the game in the only way it could have been won—by a rare combination of brilliancy and courage.

- | | | | |
|-------------|-------|--------------|--------|
| 30. R-B8ch | K-Kt3 | 37. RxPch | K-Kt4 |
| 31. Kt-B4ch | K-R2 | 38. Kt-Kt3 | Q-B8ch |
| 32. BxKt | B-Q3 | 39. K-B2 | Q-B7ch |
| 33. Kt-R5 | Q-K3 | 40. Kt-Q2 | B-R4 |
| 34. BxP | K-Kt3 | 41. P-R4ch | KxP |
| 35. P-Kt4 | B-B2 | 42. RxB mate | |
| 36. R-QR8 | Q-R6 | | |

PROBLEM 78. By G. HEATHCOTE.

Black, 7 pieces.



White, 6 pieces.

White to mate in three moves.

Solutions to above will be duly acknowledged.

KEY TO PROBLEM 77: 1. Q-Kt3.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FRENCH AFFAIRS—"LA FRANCE QUI SE MEURT".

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

London W.C., 15 May 1906.

SIR,—The admirable article, "La France qui se meurt", which appeared in your last issue, reminds me that the SATURDAY REVIEW is almost, if not quite, the only secular paper in this country which has spoken out clearly on the condition of affairs in France. You alone have understood the true meaning of the Separation, the Delation, and the other innovations dear to the hearts of M. Combes and his following,

and endorsed with enthusiasm by the "Daily News" and indeed by the vast majority of the English press.

I venture to point out one factor connected with the French elections which your able contributor has omitted. Universal suffrage, which some of our up-to-date politicians would gladly welcome into our own electioneering system, is really at the bottom of the mischief in France. It is curious, but none the less true, that universal suffrage invariably supports the Government in power, be that Government imperial or democratic, and that is why Napoleon III. made it law. The enormous organisation in the hands of the Government enables it to manipulate with wonderful precision the votes of the lowest classes—of those irresponsible individuals who have no home and no calling, and are ever glad of a free meal, and above all of a free drink—le pot de vin—and who possess the right of voting. Then again, in France there are at present 752,000 Civil Servants drawing salaries from a Government, which holds the sword of Damocles over their heads—"If you do not vote for us, a change of cabinet may deprive you of your incomes and your pensions". When the Government suppressed the clerical schools it did so with the well-calculated and fixed idea of securing the votes of the army of official teachers who have recently replaced the clericals—some twenty thousand in number. Bearing these facts in mind, it is less a matter of surprise that the party of order received such slight support a fortnight ago than that it obtained even as many votes as it did.

The amazing thing is to find the English Press, with the "Times" in front, endorsing the anti-Christian and anti-militarist policy of the present régime. That the "Daily News", which represents the opinions of Dr. Clifford, Mr. Birrell, and the Nonconformists in general, should rejoice that the Names of God and Christ should be banished from the schools is not surprising, but surely it is a strange thing that enthusiastic advocates of the "Entente Cordiale" should applaud "the Socialists, with their anti-militarism (in which)", as says the "Daily News", "we see the promise of a new and fruitful chapter". Of what earthly good is an alliance with a nation that allows its flag to be dragged through the streets, stuck up in a dungcart, and whose Minister of War takes the chair at public banquets at which the "Internationale" is sung in chorus, amidst frenetic applause? That patriotic anthem encourages soldiers to remember that their bullets are meant first for use on their officers and, secondly, for the enemy! The enthusiasm for this purely amateur "entente" would, I think, be considerably diminished in this country if people knew as much about French politics as evidently does your leader-writer. I do not think France will die, but certainly she will sooner or later pass through a period of acute internal trouble, and make herself an unpleasant object lesson to the nations. The spectacle of a people pretending to ignore the very existence of the Almighty, to the extent of reprimanding its President for an accidental allusion to God in one of his public speeches, is not exactly edifying. The "Ni Dieu ni maître" system of political existence may be all very well in theory, but put into practice it is distinctly dangerous. We may find that out for ourselves one day, if ever godless education is firmly established in our schools. On the numerous banners carried through the streets of London last May Day not a few bore significant inscriptions, such as, "Anarchy is right", "Revolt is the spirit of life", "We will have no master, high or low", &c. The thin edge of the wedge is already in the Education Bill if passed as Dr. Clifford wishes it and will drive it into the very heart of the nation.

Yours truly,

RICHARD DAVEY.

THE BUDGET AND THE INCOME-TAX PAYER.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Epping Forest, 9 May.

SIR,—Your statement last week that the Budget is certainly not "thoroughly bad" does not seem to be borne out by a businesslike consideration of the

position in which Mr. Asquith finds himself. We have heard much of the financial difficulties of the present Government owing to the wicked and wasteful methods of their predecessors. But what are the facts? Mr. Asquith had a realised surplus to dispose of amounting to 3½ millions and he anticipates a surplus of some three millions in the next year. That is to say this wholly unfortunate Chancellor of the Exchequer, inheriting the consequences of the financial sins and shortcomings of Mr. Balfour's Government has in his first few months of office considerably over £6,000,000 to play with. If he had had to make good a deficit on last year and impose new taxation this to secure some sort of balance harder things could not have been said of Unionist finance than have been forthcoming from Radical lips and Radical pens. Of course the fact that there is a surplus reflects no credit on the Unionist Government. It is all due to the abounding prosperity of the country which we are asked to believe has given the coup de grâce to the Tariff Reform campaign. As to that we shall see when the country has grasped the essential facts of our trade movements which the Board of Trade Returns do not reveal.

Meantime how does the Chancellor of the Exchequer dispose of his splendid balance in hand? He throws it away so completely that none but the few people interested in the coal and the tea trades are the better for his marvellous remissions. The abolition of the coal tax is a flagrant example of Cobdenite finance worthy to rank with the abandonment of a duty on corn which hurt nobody. Bread has not been cheaper for the one, and coal will be no cheaper for the other. In obedience to a fetish we have simply surrendered a source of revenue which might be defended first on financial grounds; secondly on patriotic grounds.

We have short memories, and already apparently the country is beginning to forget the lesson which had been driven home that something should be done if not to prevent the reckless export of coal at least to make those who export and the foreigner who buys pay for the gradual shrinkage of a valuable national asset. Cobdenite financiers with all their prescience are superior to any such pettifogging consideration as to what might happen if Great Britain fifty years hence found its coal supplies running short. Cobdenism is cosmopolitan in the present: the future must look after itself.

Then the tea duty. Who will benefit by the penny reduction? Certainly not the people who buy tea in 2 oz. and 4 oz. packets. The only beneficiaries will be the enormous dividend-paying tea companies—the A.B.C. to wit. The person whose back is being broken by the load of direct taxation gets no relief. To maintain the present income-tax is a wrong to the bread-winner and a wrong to small business men, who have gone through hard times. I shall be much astonished if the income-tax does not materially affect the revolt against the Government of which there are already signs in the formation of a Middle-Class league. Even a penny off would have been a boon: the Government have dribbled away nearly enough to represent twopence. If it were possible to ascertain why there is such a falling-off in the consumption of wines and spirits I believe it could be traced to the income-tax, which compels men to retrench, though I am almost surprised it does not have the contrary effect and drive them to drink.

Yours,

INCOME-TAX PAYER.

PERSONAL PROPERTY AND RATES.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Thornton, Didsbury, 12 May, 1906.

SIR,—The writer of the article on Personal Property and Rates in this week's SATURDAY REVIEW seems to overlook the fact that enormous sums in rates are paid by so-called personal property. A holder of Midland or any other British railway shares pays his share of the rates on that company's property in hundreds or thousands of localities. It is no answer to say that the

rates do not happen to go to the rating authority of the district in which he resides, for it is just as likely that a resident in a southern county has London and North-Western shares paying rates on that company's Manchester stations and goods depôts as that a Manchester man has shares in a railway in the southern counties.

Yours truly,

BERNARD HOBSON.

[Our correspondent misses the point. What is desired is to widen the basis of rateable property. As a railway shareholder he contributes to rates levied only on the real property belonging to the railway. No personal property makes contribution.—ED. S.R.]

"SHAM" v. GENUINE RUSSIAN MUSIC.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Lyceum Club, 128 Piccadilly.

SIR,—Judging from the quality and tone of the frequent articles on Russia and her people appearing in your columns, the SATURDAY REVIEW is evidently desirous of the prestige due to a journal which deals with Russia as much as possible from the native standpoint, rather than from the English, or to be more exact, the German point of view adopted by our Press in general. One cannot therefore but be surprised at the wholly un-Russian sentiments expressed by Mr. Harold Gorst in your issue of 12 May concerning Tchaikovsky's Lyrical Scenes from Poushkin's *Evguène Onéguine*. One has but to mention this opera (at the present time perhaps Tchaikovsky's most highly esteemed work in his own country) to any latter-day cultured Russian to receive very much the following reply: "Yes, Tchaikovsky's *Onéguine*, what a masterpiece, so absolutely national in temperament and mood. It is only we Russians though who can rightly appreciate the subtlety with which the psychology and meaning of Poushkin's poem are reproduced in the music; both musician and poet are at one in giving us not only a page from Russian life, but the very essence of the Russian soul." I might endorse utterances like these, repeatedly made in my own presence, by numerous quotations from such authorities on Russian literature and music as Belinski, Kropotkin, Volkonski, Kashkin and others. Let me, however, as a contrast to these Russian views, recall those of Mr. Harold Gorst: "It is impossible not to blame Tchaikowsky [sic] for wasting his time over such an idiotic and artificial plot as that which is developed by the author of 'Eugene Onegin' [sic]. Nothing satisfactory in art could possibly have resulted from the efforts of any musician—of Wagner himself—to translate into music the tinpot emotions and false sentimentality of this tragedy in a teacup. . . ."

"If the music possessed a distinctive national character, the fact would certainly have enhanced the interest, and to some extent the worth, of the opera. But this was by no means the case. The Russian element was only apparent in a few dances that were introduced in three out of the total of six scenes", &c.

Mr. Harold Gorst has certainly never been in Russia, or he would have at once recognised—even in the recent English version of the opera from which he has apparently attempted to form an opinion of the original—the *Horovodé* (peasant choruses), a special feature in Tchaikovsky's musical treatment.

Poushkin's poem published in 1823 and Tchaikovsky's Lyrical Scenes first produced in 1879 each struck such an entirely new note, the first in Russian literature, and the second in Russian music, that it was, it is true, some time before either of them took the place which they now occupy in the classics of Russian art. The very fact that Mr. Gorst's critique has appeared in the SATURDAY REVIEW presumably gives it rank, as an emanation of enlightened English thought. If this be so, then the "note" of all that is best in Russian art is still obviously quite beyond the range of English sympathy and comprehension.

Yours faithfully,

A. E. KEETON.

GOOD FRIDAY IN AUSTRIA.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

31 Farm Street, W.

SIR,—In your issue of 21 April a correspondent E. G. D. writing from Vienna made various statements regarding the observance of Holy Week in that capital, which from my own slight experience I found it hard to credit. He declared that in Austria Good Friday is treated with even less reverence than in Protestant England; that the day of the Crucifixion passes there quite unobserved, people working, buying and selling as usual; the only exception being the Jews who close the Vienna Stock Exchange, thus showing more respect to the memory of Christ than their Catholic compatriots. E. G. D. added that whereas Christians of every communion throughout the world believe that Christ rose upon the third day, "in Austria the ceremony of the Resurrection takes place on Saturday afternoon—a glaring anachronism which must tend to confuse people's minds as to the meaning of the Christian Sabbath".

Desiring to satisfy myself as to the facts of the case, I accordingly wrote to my sister, Madame Longard de Longgarde, who has spent almost her whole life in Austria, and from her I have now received a reply the purport of which I may perhaps be allowed briefly to indicate.

1. "It is true that buying and selling continue as usual on Good Friday"—as to a great extent on Sundays—"but it is quite untrue that the day is not observed. If the streets appear as full, or fuller than usual, it is chiefly because the mass of the people are peregrinating from one church to another, where the 'Holy Sepulchres' are positively besieged—a good deal out of curiosity, no doubt, these being beautifully decorated".

2. "For three days in Holy Week, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, all theatres and public places of entertainment are closed."

3. "As for the Jews closing the Stock Exchange on Good Friday, because it is Good Friday, that is quite wrong. They close it only when one of their own festivals coincides in date, as happened this year."

4. As to Holy Saturday, it must be remembered that throughout the Catholic Church the Paschal rejoicings begin with the Mass on that day, which, as the Liturgy still testifies, was originally celebrated during the following night. In Austria, as generally in Germany, there follows in the afternoon the resurrection ceremony, when the Blessed Sacrament is removed from the "Sepulchre" to its usual shrine in the Tabernacle. My sister writes:

"Throughout Austria the ceremony takes place on Saturday afternoon with great solemnity—indeed, I fancied it was so in all Catholic countries. In the Vienna Burg Chapel, the Court—including the Emperor and all his cortège—always attends, as it did this year."

Yours obediently,

JOHN GERARD, S.J.

BEAGLING OR COURSING.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

9 May, 1906.

SIR,—It seemed a strong answer that you made to the complaints of Mr. Hardie against beagling when you called his attention to the coursing practised by the poorer classes. And in his letter of disagreement with this point perhaps the "Old Tory Sportsman" forgets that it is of these "poorer classes" that Mr. Hardie is especially the guide and friend, and that it is rather his duty to raise them to better things than to reform the occupations of the rich.

Against coursing the cry of cruelty must at least be as strong, for more hares are killed than with beagles; but no claim of good exercise can be made in its favour. Indeed a distinction might well be drawn between a sport in which man is a mere spectator and one in which he takes a vigorous part.

Yours faithfully,

LIONEL LEIGH.

REVIEWS.

OUR RUDE FOREFATHERS.

"The Stories of the Kings of Norway called the Round of the World (Heimskringla)." Vol. IV. By E. Magnusson (The Saga Library. Edited by William Morris and E. Magnusson. Vol. VI.) London: Quaritch. 15s. net.

WHEN we consider to what extent Scandinavian blood and Scandinavian influences, either directly or at one remove through the Normans, have gone to the making of our race, it is curious how little the average man knows of the great Northern hero cycle and the history into which it merges. In any educated conversation you may assume without pedantry an acquaintance with the myths of Hellas and allude to the heroes who fought before Troy, yet what response would you obtain to the mention of Sigurd or Skarphedinn, of Gunnhild or Olaf? Even the English poets, who have never been weary of resetting the Greek folk tales, have but rarely sought inspiration in the imaginations which have clustered round the sources of our own race. Matthew Arnold's Baldur is the only example we can recall until William Morris began his tales. Yet the Northern cycle is inferior neither in beauty nor strength; we shall always regard the story of Sigurd the Volsung—the slaying of Fafnir, the strife of the Queens, the death of Brynhild—as the most nobly wrought tale in the world, all passion and pity cast in a great heroic mould. What again is more beautiful than the story of Frithjof and Ingebiorg, or more human than the Saga of Burnt Njal? The feelings too that stir the men and women of these gusty Northern stories are those which move us to-day; we do homage to our kinship by sympathies never extended to Achilles or Ulysses, nor even to Hector and Ajax.

It is just this full-blooded human interest which drew William Morris, himself the story-teller of our times, to the Sagas; more than ten years ago he published in conjunction with Dr. Magnusson five volumes of the Saga Library, and now Dr. Magnusson alone completes the series with a final explanatory volume of notes and indexes to the Heimskringla, of which three volumes of text had already appeared. We have no desire in this place to consider Dr. Magnusson's labours from the scholar's point of view, let it suffice to say that in these notes he has supplied just that guide to the men, the places, the law and the daily manners and customs of the Saga world, which the layman, reading for pleasure, has always wanted to have at hand.

The Heimskringla, with which this volume deals, is the chronicle of the kings of Norway from legendary times down to the close of the twelfth century, put into writing by Snorri Sturlason the Icelander about 1220 and called "Heimskringla" or the "Round of the World" from the opening words of the manuscript. We say put into writing advisedly, for Snorri, though himself an artist and master of a great prose style, was only the inheritor of the long tradition of the Saga men, trained to tell tales of kings and heroes before a critical audience, who were well acquainted with the facts and keenly resentful of a "leaning story". On account of the style, for which Morris is responsible, the pedants who have handled his versions roughly enough; "Wardour Street English" "pseudo Middle-English" are not wholly unjustifiable sneers at the archaisms, the Icelandic constructions and the literal renderings, which Morris deliberately employed in his scheme of translation. Let us take an example:—"Now King Haki had gotten such sore hurts, that he saw the days of his life would not be long; so he let take a swift ship that he had, and lade it with dead men and weapons, and let bring it out to sea, and ship the rudder, and hoist up the sail, and then lay fire in tar wood, and make a bale aboard. The wind blew off shore, and Haki was come nigh to death, or was verily dead, when he was laid on the bale, and the ship went blazing out into the main sea."

But as soon as the reader gets fairly embarked on the story he will find Morris' English vivid and entertaining enough, for which he will render due thanks if ever he comes across some of the versions of the Sagas

perpetrated by the pedants themselves, where a dull veil of slipshod style and newspaper idiom blurs the story like whitewash over a delicate carving. And as he reads he will understand why Morris should have given himself the great labour of the translation; the *Heimskringla* is a prince among stories, it may record but the petty squabbles of a barbarous folk, "the wars of kites and crows", but the size of the stage is of no consequence. Here are men and women, so put before us that we feel they are alive, and what else is literature, what else is life?

The immediate derivation of the *Heimskringla* from the oral Sagas accounts for its intense personal element and the dramatic presentation of the story, but to Snorri himself we must attribute its large vision of destiny and character, working themselves out generation after generation in the fortunes of a race.

What finer tales of fight were ever told than the account we have here of the battle of Hiorunga Bay when Earl Eric beat the Vikings of Jom, or Sticklestead when Olaf the Saint fell, or the battle of Swold, the last fight of the mighty Olaf Triggvison:—"Now Einar Thambarskelfir was aboard the 'Worm' aft in the mainhold and he shot with the bow and was the hardest shooting of all men. . . . Then spake the Earl to a man whom some name Finn and he was the greatest of bowmen; and he said 'Shoot me yonder big man in the strait hold'. So Finn shot, and the arrow came on Einar's bow even as he drew the third time, and the bow burst asunder in the midst. Then spake King Olaf 'What brake there so loud?' Answereth Einar 'Norway, king, from thine hands.' 'No such crash as that', said the king, 'take my bow and shoot therewith'. And he cast the bow to him. So Einar took the bow and drew it straightway right over the arrow head, and said 'Too weak, too weak, Allwielder's bow!' and cast the bow back. . . . Then took he his shield and sword and fought manfully."

The quality which makes the *Heimskringla*, like all the best of the Sagas, so matchless in literature, is its intensity of vision. It is not realism, it is the imagination that illuminates like a lightning flash, not the pseudo-imagination of the Celtic hero-cycles, a mere opulence of adjectives or impossible adventures which only disguise a loose grip of character and a slipshod outlook. Let us take a passage from the *Heimskringla*, where the old Earl Hakon, deserted by the bonders because he has meddled with their women, and now surprised by the invasion of Olaf Triggvison, is in hiding with a thrall in a hole dug under the swine sty of the stead. Here they catch some talk of the searchers about the reward Olaf has promised for the Earl's body:—

"Now this talk heard the Earl and Kark, and they had a light there with them; and the Earl said, 'Why art thou so pale or whiles as black as earth? is it not so that thou wilt bewray me?' 'Nay', said Kark. 'We were born both on one and the same night', said the Earl, 'nor shall we be far apart in our deaths'. In the night the Earl kept himself waking, but Kark slept and went on evilly in his sleep. Then the Earl waked him and asked him what he dreamed; and he said, 'I was e'en now in Ladir, and King Olaf laid a gold necklace on the neck of me'. The Earl answered, 'A blood-red necklace shall Olaf do about thy neck when so ye meet'. So thereafter they both waked as men waking one over the other. But against the daybreak the Earl fell asleep, and speedily his sleep waxed troubled, till to such pitch it came that he drew up under him his heels and his head as if he would rise up, and cried out high and awfully. Then waxed Kark adrad and full of horror, and gripped a big knife from out his belt and thrust it through the Earl's throat and sheared it right out. That was the bane of Earl Hakon."

Grim as the *Heimskringla* is, it is not all blood; humour and high purpose and beauty, too, are to be found there; most of all we recognise that its men and women are of like passions with ourselves. In these stark Northmen we see the source of one of the noblest if most unprofitable traits in our national character, the refusal to the point of perversity to admit the existence of treachery in a friend, and utter recklessness in the conduct of a point

of honour. Again and again someone marches opened to his doom because he will not sully his soul by recognising the villainy of those to whom he has given his trust; his self-respect is more to him than his life, just as the Viking must carry all sail whatever the wind that blows. Again when the man sins he knows his iniquity and does not repent, but drains the cup and takes the punishment when it comes without complaint. Something of the special character of the English gentleman, for good and for evil, has come to our race from the Northmen.

The *Heimskringla* again deals not infrequently with English affairs, from the time of the fostering of Hakon Haroldson by Athelstane down to the death of Harald the Hardredy, and to read the tale of this same Harald, mightiest of the fighting men the North ever sent out, who fought for the Miklegarth Emperors in Sicily and Africa, who fell in conflict with the other Harald, Godwinson, at the fatal battle of Stamford Bridge, but for which there might have been no Norman Conquest, is to gain a new sense of the unity of history.

The *Heimskringla* and its kindred Sagas should be part of the liberal education of every boy, not only for their racial connexion and historic value, but because they provide the finest story-telling in the world—noble literature instinct with art and enjoyment, besides which the *Morte d'Arthur*, the stories of Charlemagne, or the *Tale of Troy* itself, seem thin and artificial. It is wrought, too, in the high heroic temper, and though the clash of arms becomes rarer, the occasions grow not fewer when as a man he will be called to spend himself carelessly for a dream or break himself against the evil he cannot overcome; courage is still the virtue without which the others are worthless and from this Northern world he may catch some of the spirit to steel him for the fight.

ESPRIT FIN.

"*Milieux d'Art.*" C. B. Liverpool: Printed privately by Donald Fraser, 37 Hanover Street. 1906.

THE most profound, subtle, and concentrated criticism which has appeared in England for many years, is contained in a vast pamphlet written in French and printed on tea-rose-coloured quarto paper in small capitals. It is anonymous but for the initials C.B. This anonymity it might not be difficult to penetrate, but to what purpose? Here is a book which has evidently been written for its own sake, as a way of noting certain aspects and sensations of contemporary English literature, by one who has interested himself, like a disinterested explorer, in what he calls "l'étude topographique des milieux d'art"; in the interaction of milieu and temperament. He sees in Jane Austen "un esprit entièrement adapté à son milieu", yet always a detached, slightly ironic observer ("dans la descendance directe de Montaigne") in the drawing-room of life. He sees Ernest Dowson, "le 'noteur' de ces infiniment subtiles degrés par lesquels le silence s'établit", under the image of a traveller who steps out of the train at a terminus into the midst of the noise and jostling of a popular demonstration, of whose purpose he is unaware. Seeking to escape, "il se trouve sur un de ces refuges, comme dans les grands 'circus' de Londres, où l'on ne peut rester longtemps et que les personnes timides ou dédaigneuses craignent de quitter". He sees Stevenson, in whom "l'artiste fut incomplet, parce qu'il n'eut pas le respect de son art, et l'homme d'action possible fut entravé par des relents de rêve", under the image of an advertisement copied from Bradshaw: "New Palace Hotel . . . stands on the spot where Tennyson received his inspiration for the 'Idylls of the King'. . . . Electric light, Golf, Passengers' Lift, Hot and Cold Sea-water Baths." On the very spot where Stevenson received his inspiration he sees "un édifice avec tous les 'modern improvements'; histoires de trésors perdus, légendes ou essais (lumière électrique, golf, ascenseur). Tout cela, si brillant, a pour nous le tort de recouvrir la place même, où le rêve jeune de Stevenson aurait pu un jour lui être révélé, en expression dressé". He sees Hardy working in his native earth: "les événements sont pour lui le

produit du paysage qu'il a retrouvé, sinon créé"; "les personnages, lorsqu'ils sont perçus en motion . . . forment une partie du paysage qui se déplace". "La hantise de la grande route, la seule solitude possible pour un pays cultivé et civilisé, Hardy l'a exprimée dans presque tous ses romans. . . . Au milieu des aventures, la route fatidique conserve son indifférence intense pour les événements et les hommes vers qui elle mène et dont elle sépare". And of Meredith, of Emily Brontë, of Henry James, of George Gissing, of Dickens as the incarnation of English melodrama, he writes with equal insight, with a not less novel tact in following a clue, the least obvious clue, to its centre in the labyrinth.

This book, written by a Frenchman who has evidently lived long in England, is full of instruction for us. Here is someone who is patient and without prejudice; who has learnt his way into the English mind, into the English way of feeling, as few foreign observers have ever done; and who makes no mistakes in his judgment of values, literary or other. He does not start with theories, as Taine did, nor bolster theories with unexistent facts, as Taine did also. He brings a method, certain tests, and he applies his tests, he develops his method, with the sensitiveness, not of a critic, but of an artist. It is astonishing to find for once a critic who can tell the artist how and why he had worked. He does it by hints, sufficient for the only readers for whom he is likely to care; but so carefully restrained from any undue emphasis in enlightenment, the dust on the butterfly's wings so tenderly spared in the moment of capture, that he can call a delicate and certainly illuminating analysis of "un auteur qui a revendiqué le droit d'être appelé énigmatique," "Contribution au Mystère d'Henry James".

On the other hand, he is not less discriminately just to a writer so English and so obvious as Dickens, and in his analysis of the qualities proper to the melodrama, and of the incarnation of those qualities, in their highest degree, in Dickens, he seems to state for the first time with exactitude the essential characteristics of Dickens. He shows the superiority of Dickens to the ordinary writer of melodrama by an apt comparison of his work with the work of Wilkie Collins: "l'un, celui de Dickens, rehaussé de toute la hantise du rêve; l'autre, celui de Collins, sobre et concentré, n'ayant pour le soutenir que l'intérêt même de la situation, du motif." It is, as he expresses it with justice, the descent "du rêve halluciné avec sa magie de couleur à l'indication simple de possibilités dramatiques". Does not this simple comparison help us to understand Dickens?

There have been many descriptions of the substance of the novels of Meredith, of life as he sees it, but has anyone ever so precisely rendered it as in this image? "La réalité, froide et inorganique, chez Meredith, semble une île rocheuse où viennent se poser des esprits d'un autre monde". And has the style of Meredith ever been so precisely rendered as in this ingenious mixture of two images? "L'expression anglaise 'to run riot', courir la bride sur le cou, peut être appliquée à cette inspiration souple et bondissante, à ce style qui écume autour de l'idée, la soulève, la fait rebondir comme un jongleur une balle". Such criticism as this does not analyse merely, nor merely suggest; it evokes; and the whole book is a book of evocations.

EGYPTIAN VIEWS OF A FUTURE LIFE.

"The Egyptian Heaven and Hell." By E. A. Wallis Budge. 3 vols. London: Kegan Paul. 1906. 18s. net.

BY "The Egyptian Heaven and Hell" Dr. Budge means the ideas of the other world contained in the two sacred books of the Egyptians which are generally known to scholars as Am-Duat and the Book of Gates. They are books which apparently had no existence before the age of the eighteenth dynasty; they seem to have been composed at Thebes, and to have been known only to a small and select circle of the educated and wealthier classes. The mass of the people were contented with the Book of the Dead,

which had come down to them from the days of the earliest dynasties, and with which the beliefs connected with Osiris were associated.

The ritual known as the Book of the Dead had been a gradual growth. Portions of it had their origin in prehistoric Egypt, and chapters had been added to it from time to time from the local rituals of the country. Glosses had been attached to the text in order to explain old and forgotten formulæ, and the glosses themselves had come to need other glosses for their interpretation. Savage magic and puerile superstitions were inextricably mixed up with advanced views about religion, and the tribunal of Osiris, where the soul was weighed against truth and salvation was made to depend on righteousness of life, jostled against the charms and amulets and mystic names which ensured a safe passage to the dead man through the dangers of the next world. Successive strata of religious thought and local varieties of belief are all reflected in the chapters of the Book of the Dead; no attempt is made to harmonise or arrange them; they lie side by side like the fossils in the strata of the earth. The early ancestor-worship, the later Osirian faith, the still later solar theology, are all there in an almost hopeless confusion.

But the Book of the Dead, in one form or another, had been the sole funerary ritual of official Egypt throughout the period when the Osirian faith, with its doctrines of righteousness, of a judgment to come, of a resurrection, and of identification with the god, was engaged in supplanting the rival beliefs that had once flourished in the valley of the Nile. With that faith, therefore, it remained closely connected; if the Osirian faith were to be superseded, it was necessary to supersede also the Book of the Dead. Heliopolis had been the seat of a solar worship from a very early epoch, and Professor Maspero has long since pointed out that it was probably the source of the theological system which made the Sun-god in his threefold manifestation the supreme deity. The solar theology eventually mingled with the Osirian faith, and Egyptian philosophy began to resolve the various local divinities into forms of the Sun-god Ra. With the recovery of Egyptian independence under the kings of the Eighteenth dynasty Thebes became the capital of Egypt, and Amon the god of Thebes naturally took his place at the head of the Pantheon. His identification with the Sun-god followed almost of necessity, and he was henceforth known as Amon-Ra. The attributes of Ra were transferred to him along with the theology which centred in the Sun-god, and this involved a new conception of the life after death.

The book Am-Duat, the book "of the Other World", was a result of the new religious philosophy of the Theban priests. It replaced the heaven of Osiris by the solar bark which passed through the twelve regions or hours of the Other World during the night bearing with it the followers of Ra and lighting up the dreary regions of Hades as it passed in succession through them. Those only who had been worshippers of Ra and were acquainted with his mystic names could enter the bark and live eternally in the light of the sun. The older gods became the shadowy servitors of Ra; like Sokar of Memphis, Osiris was a prisoner in the land of darkness, dependent for what light he and his followers could obtain on the brief passage of the solar bark. The happy heaven, the better Egypt, to which his worshippers had looked forward was transformed into a dreary prison-house; the truth and righteousness demanded from those who would enter it were replaced by a system of Gnosticism which only the rich and cultured few were able to learn. The book Am-Duat was essentially the ritual of an aristocracy.

But the old belief in Osiris and all that it implied was too firmly rooted in the hearts of the people to be suppressed, and accordingly a new ritual was composed, in which an attempt was made to reconcile the claims of Amon-Ra and those of Osiris. Here, though the general scheme of the Book Am-Duat was preserved, and the solar bark still pursued its way through the realms of the dead, Osiris was acknowledged to be lord of the under world, "whose kingdom", as Dr. Budge says, "was everlasting". This new ritual was

the so-called Book of Gates, which however like the Book Am-Duat was of Theban origin, and while yielding to a certain extent to the claims of the popular theology nevertheless maintained the supremacy of the Theban god in the next world as well as in this. It was, in fact, a compromise, in which the primary place was given to the followers of Ra, and the highest beatitude, that of living for ever in the light of the Sun-god, was made to depend on knowledge, rather than on obedience to the law of righteousness. The judgment of Osiris was allowed to remain, but the heaven to which it led was transferred to the realms of night.

Dr. Budge's third volume is based on lectures delivered by him upon ancient Egyptian religion, and is chiefly devoted to an interesting description of the contents and character of the two Theban rituals for the dead. The first two volumes contain the texts, with translations, of the rituals themselves, and will be welcome to the English student of Comparative Religion. None of the materials has escaped Dr. Budge's unwearied industry, and he has added a valuable index of names and facts at the end of the third volume. The English reader now has before him all that can be known at present about the Book Am-Duat and the Book of Gates.

Dr. Budge seems reluctant to allow that the Osirian doctrine of salvation through righteousness is older than the Theban period. But he has forgotten the sepulchral inscriptions which show that the "Negative Confession" must have formed an important part of Egyptian belief at a much earlier epoch. Thus in the age of the Hyksos we find Baba at El-Kab pleading on his own behalf, not orthodoxy of doctrine, but his good deeds on earth, how he had fed the hungry and supplied corn to the needy in the time of famine. Dr. Budge has adopted Professor Maspero's suggestion that Osiris was originally the god of Mendes in the Delta who came afterwards to be identified with Khent-Amenti of Abydos; recent archaeological discovery, however, is distinctly unfavourable to this hypothesis, and when Osiris first appears he is already the god of Abydos. It is hardly fair to say that in later days "the Egyptians reverted to their old belief" in the northern situation of the Paradise of Osiris, since it had then been relegated to the sky. Nor is Professor Wiedemann's view very acceptable which identifies Osiris with the Corn-god Nepra. So-called "beds of Osiris", that is to say the figures of the god formed of moist soil in which ears of corn were sown and allowed to germinate, have been discovered in the tombs of Amon-hotep II. and of Yua and Tua, but there is no proof that they existed before the age of the Eighteenth dynasty. The ancient beliefs of Egypt, however, admit of many interpretations; we may be able to give a literal translation of its sacred books, but the real sense of them may still elude us. There are many points on which certainty is unattainable; perhaps it would not be reached even if we could bring an old Egyptian again to life.

The illustrations with which Dr. Budge has enriched his work are excellent and well chosen. But why does he say that the kings of the Thirteenth dynasty reigned only in the Delta, and that the kings of the Fourteenth dynasty were their contemporaries? No support at all events for such a statement can be found in the native monuments.

THE ENGRAVINGS OF THE ENGLISH RENAISSANCE.

"Early Engraving and Engravers in England (1545-1695)." By Sidney Colvin. With Forty-one Facsimiles in Photogravure. London: printed by order of the Trustees of the British Museum. 1906. £5 5s.

PERHAPS no more striking evidence of the power of association in affecting the æsthetic sense can be imagined than the variation of the esteem in which the artistic productions of the different peoples of Europe of the early Renaissance period are held in the countries of their origin and outside them. By universal consent the artists and handicraftsmen of Italy during this epoch are admitted to have informed their works with a spirit which has and must always compel the

admiration of all men. Fired by their example, all trans-Alpine nations were prompted to "have a taste" and produced works of art which unquestionably appealed to contemporary compatriots as satisfactory imitations of the Italian style and even of the more remote classical models upon which that style itself was founded.

Yet it must be doubted whether the barbaric richness of Chambord and Blois, or even the over-elongated elegance of the nymphs of the Fontainebleau school—the actual offspring of their own pencils—can ever have cut more than a poor figure in the eyes of the Florentines of the sixteenth century. A contemporary Frenchman, to whom these works seemed models of fine taste in the grand style, would doubtless have shuddered at the monstrous ornaments heaped one upon another in the façade of Wollaton Hall, the Schools Tower at Oxford, or any of the sumptuous family monuments which are to be found in almost every English country church. Our ancestors, in their turn, would have smiled scornfully upon the barbarous attempts of the Northern Germans and Scandinavians to produce would-be classical art of the same stamp.

But the strangest part of the matter is not that the nations nearer to the sun of inspiration should at that time have despised the uncouth efforts of those further removed from it, but that the compatriots of these fumbling artists should after the lapse of three centuries—filled with accumulated artistic discovery and archaeological experience—still find something spirit-stirring in the naïve performances of the Elizabethan and Jacobean artists. Mr. Colvin has most felicitously described this "Tutor taste or tastelessness" as a "jumble of miscellaneous elements, allegorical, emblematical, and heraldic, would-be classical and misunderstood Gothic decorative forms, of strapwork, jewel-work, mauresque, and nondescript, the whole producing an odd, undecided, wholly indefensible and absurd, and yet rich and rather agreeably fantastic effect".

Yet it is not, of course, the possible existence of abstract beauty in any one of these elements, any more than the certain presence of concrete ugliness in the combination of them, which endears the buildings, the portraits, the tombs or the engraved frontispieces of that period to any English eye; it is simply the fact that they stand the only graphic records of one of the most glorious epochs of British history. A conglomerate mass of ill-proportioned, misapplied sculptured ornaments—it is the tomb of England's Elizabeth; a clumsily-drawn, coarsely-graven diagram—it is the most authentic resemblance which we have of Shakespeare; an overloaded pageant of incomprehensible allegory—it is the frontispiece to the volumes in which Bacon and Spenser beheld their own works. It is impossible not to forgive, even if we do not become quite unconscious of their artistic shortcomings.

Nor is patriotic interest in any of this art, or, to confine ourselves more particularly to the subject of the magnificent volume under consideration, of these engravings, materially reduced by the knowledge that the makers were for the most part foreign refugees from religious persecution. On the contrary, an added historical interest is due to the fact that we are enabled from the peculiar circumstances of the publication of these portraits and title-pages to estimate, to a degree which the fugitive nature of the products of other trades—not less flourishing and remunerative in their day—forbids us, the immense benefits which English commerce and art gained by the welcome afforded to the Protestant fugitives.

Mr. Colvin has unearthed a number of new and entertaining details concerning the career of Thomas Geminus, a Flemish surgeon and printer (to name two of the professions which he plied in the Courts of Henry VIII. his son and daughters) who produced in 1545 the first engravings on metal executed in this country. These prints, anatomical diagrams pirated from Vesalius, possess no intrinsic interest, but the portrait of Queen Elizabeth, discovered by Mr. Colvin in the library of Eton College, is a work of very great iconographic and not inconsiderable artistic value. The magnificent, unique portrait of the same queen by William Rogers is also well reproduced in the book. Upon the whole the several engraved portraits

of the Virgin Queen give a somewhat terrifying idea of her appearance, like some highly-magnified picture of a malignant-looking insect or like one of the Tudors' own heraldic monsters. And one cannot be surprised that she caused to be drafted the famous proclamation forbidding the dissemination of unlicensed representations of her person. Mr. Colvin doubts whether the proclamation was ever actually put into force; but, if a statement made by Evelyn in his "Sculptura" is to be trusted, steps were taken to abate the scandal which would fully account for the rarity of the uncompromising productions of the early engravers. In one instance, he declares "so many vile copies" were "multiplied from an ill painting, as being called in and brought to Essex House, did for several years furnish the Pastry Men" (predecessors of Lord Byron's portmanteau-makers) "with peels for the use of their ovens".

In the remaining facsimiles the art of Elstrack, Delaram, the De Passes; Payne, Marshall, and Glover, is liberally exhibited. A series of beautiful plates after Faithorne, Loggan and White show English line-engraving in its most brilliant and tasteful development. In the text the reader is "invited to go over" the ground traversed in Walpole's now somewhat antiquated catalogue of English engravers, "afresh, in the light of a close and first-hand study both of the whole engraved material, and of whatever literary and documentary evidence exist that bear upon it", and guided with a scientific accuracy and enlivened by a literary style.

The weak point in the book is one which is, perhaps, inseparable from a minutely detailed study of any moment of history, the arbitrariness of the bounds set to the subject. Without going into the question of the earliest English woodcuts, or discussing the entire œuvre of Hollar, Mr. Colvin would have thrown further light upon the circumstances of the first appearance of engraving on metal in this country, and the counteraction of etching upon engraving and vice versa during the seventeenth century, if he had devoted a few pages to the influence of Holbein and Hollar upon English book illustration, and an occasional glance at the wood blocks and etchings contemporary with the engravings he was discussing. Again some reference might well have been made to engraved brass memorials; the ascription, which was once seriously propounded, of certain monumental brasses to the Hogenburghs is doubtless an error, but Richard Haydock, the scantiness of whose printed engravings Mr. Colvin notices, unquestionably executed some plates of this sort, and it is not improbable that other artists used their skill upon brasses as well as upon sundials and other work of that type.

NOVELS.

"A Maid of Normandy: a Romance of Versailles."
By Dora M. Jones. London: Blackwood. 1903. 6s.

Miss Dora M. Jones gives us some pretty pictures of Normandy and some faint impressions of Society in and around the Courts of Louis at Versailles and of the exiled James at S. Germain. The story itself is conventional in the highest degree. It shows the brave young Comte de Cressy and the fair Lady Mary who serves the English Queen and dreams of the Comte. He, however, falls in love with another and a simple maiden and so earns the hatred of the beautiful spoiled and wicked Madame de Sericourt who, though married, desires his love and homage. Two great churchmen, Fénelon being one, a poison-maker, and a few commonplace people as tools complete the necessary elements for a story of love, intrigue, revenge, and retribution. The idea of making the heroine lame is new in stories of this period, though a maimed principal character has become a familiar feature of fiction dealing with contemporary life. Miss Jones writes with restraint and delicacy, and with a real power in depicting scenery and sunniness; but she has scarcely taken enough thought to make her characters live and move. The device, too, of shirking critical moments and tragical developments by "taking them as read" between the

close of one chapter and the beginning of the next is neither a new nor a commendable trick in the art of story-telling.

"Dick." By G. F. Bradby. London: Smith, Elder. 1906. 3s. 6d.

There is only one fault to be found with Mr. Bradby's book—it is too short, and we are as sorry to part with "Dick" in the last chapter, as his host and hostess were at the end of the summer holidays in the Norfolk Broads. All that is attractive and lovable and admirable in simple boy-nature is to be found in "Dick", with his boyish activities and preferences, his ingenuity, his expressive language, and his delightful code of schoolboy honour and politeness. Mr. Bradby evidently thoroughly understands and appreciates boys; he writes unusually well if a trifle too elaborately, and he has a very keen and admirable sense of humour. He is inclined though to be hard on the feminine sex, which he apparently regards in the half-pitying way characteristic of the schoolboy whose appreciation of women is as yet undeveloped.

"The Lady of the Decoration." London: Hodder and Stoughton. 1906. 6s.

This story, which is published anonymously, is a piece of rather tiresome gush, written in American slang, about Japan, and the personal experiences in that country of the narrator, a female missionary from Kentucky. Apparently the author was in Japan during the war, and has seized the opportunity of dishing up her mild adventures in novel form, and of displaying her enthusiasm for everything Japanese. One can only sympathise with the Japanese children, whom she must have left, after four years' instruction, hopelessly Americanised, and speaking pigeon English with a Kentucky drawl.

"Wild Justice." By Lloyd Osbourne. London: Heinemann. 1906. 6s.

Mr. Osbourne's picturesque tales are all of Samoa, of the ways of natives and of beach-combers and of sailors—described in a straightforward interesting way. Some of the stories are tragic, some humorous and some sentimental, all are readable and entertaining, if not brilliant, for Mr. Osbourne is an excellent craftsman, though he has not the powers of a Stevenson or a Conrad.

"The Wheel of Life." By Ellen Glasgow. London: Constable. 1906. 6s.

Like most feminine writers, Miss Glasgow is chiefly concerned with the problems of sex, and with the mutual attitude of men and women. There is much that is original and thoughtful in her studies of the various couples whose loves and antipathies fill the book, but she is too fond of discussion. She is overflowing with ideas but they are not all valuable and her perpetual gushing eloquence seems out of proportion to the importance of the incidents. The women characters are remarkably well drawn, the men are less successful—they are so very literary and introspective in their conversation.

NEW BOOKS AND REPRINTS.

"The Balfourian Parliament, 1900-1905." By Henry W. Lucy. London: Hodder and Stoughton. 1906. 10s. 6d. net.

Mr. Lucy, it seems, has been handicapped in writing up the history of the 1900-1905 Parliament: it was "less fruitful of picturesque incident than were some of its predecessors". "Opportunities of describing personal incidents and domestic scenes" were limited. Mr. Lucy need not be apologetic. His book after all seems to be packed with personalities. If there is not quite so much about white duck trousers and orchid buttonholes and cummerbunds, white waistcoats or deer-stalker hats as lovers of the tattle of Parliament may yearn after, there are any number of scenes and personalities. If it were not for Mr. Lucy nearly all these invaluable sources of history might be lost, a dreadful thing to consider. Fancy the loss to posterity if it were utterly forgotten, for instance, that Lord Wemyss in his excitement one evening in the House of Lords, "brought a gesticulatory arm in rough contact with the royal hat"! For people who read Mr. Lucy's diaries of Parliament through and through, we have little doubt a fact like this is of more value

than a score of great dull debates on education or South Africa or the fiscal question. Scarcely less valuable would be the description of how Mr. Chaplin and Sir James Ferguson and Sir Harry Jones competed for corner seats; or of how in the twilight of a May evening there was something touching in the spectacle of the Prime Minister and the Duke of Devonshire slumbering side by side on the Ministerial bench in the House of Lords. Mr. Lucy almost expected to see "the Bishop of Winchester advance on tiptoe and cover them with leaves". Here then the profound student of Parliament will find all the figures and funny men of the House of Commons. Mr. Lucy hits them all off as only he can. But why should he describe Mr. Churchill's memory as "phenomenal"?

"Othello Unveiled." By Rentals Venkata Subbaran. Madras: 1906. 20s.

We know what to expect of this extraordinary work after reading the notice of "Hamlet Unveiled", by the same author, which is printed in the most prominent place in the book opposite the title-page. It is declared that "Hamlet Unveiled" "revealed the true picture of the magnificent tragedy for the first time after three centuries", and that it presented the characters "in their genuine beauty and symmetry which has escaped the perception of the world's greatest intellects and critics". It reads more like a circus than a literary notice. A little of it may go a long way, but it is really rather good fun of a sort. In his preface the author declares it a sadly ironical fact that he could not find any publisher to take up his work and had to make himself both printer and publisher. Whether he was his own compositor into the bargain is not stated, but we should not wonder. Othello is unveiled in the four hundred pages of explanatory matter at the end of the book; but the reader is helped along in reading the play itself by footnotes designed to clear up all the more difficult and profound passages. Here are some good specimens of the footnotes: "*Saucy*—insolent, outrageous"; "*Lascivious*—lustful"; "*My Peculiar End*—my own particular end"; "*Mandragora*—popularly called 'mandrake'—a soporific herb"; "*He dies*—he shall die". We have not seen R. V. Subbaran's "Hamlet Unveiled", but if his notes equal these in subtlety of interpretation no further mystery can attach to the play.

"Brownsea Island," by C. van Raalte (Humphreys, 12s. net), is a book of considerable local interest, gaily illustrated by Florence van Raalte. It describes one of the most beautiful islets on the English coast, and gives its history from mediæval times. This literature of the last quarter of a century or so has been distinguished by many excellent local histories among which this is not the least.—"The Rise and Fall of Reading Abbey", by J. B. Hurry (Stock), is another work of this character though on a much smaller scale. Mr. Hurry brought out some years ago a larger work on this subject which was noticed in the SATURDAY REVIEW. This is a reprint, somewhat amplified, of the Presidential address to the Reading Literary and Scientific Society last year.—"Months at the Lakes" (MacLehose, 6s. net) is a pleasant record by H. D. Rawnsley of changes in the mood and face of nature in the English Lakes, which he tells us it has been his custom to keep for the past twenty years. He arranges his book in months, and under each adds some account of the life of the dales folk. The book is illustrated by photographs in half tone, some of which are distinctly good.

"Revue des Deux Mondes." 1 Mai. 3 fr.

Pierre Loti continues his study of the modern Turkish woman which seems to us to have little foundation in fact or theory. It is contrary to all the traditions of Islam that Turkish women should have interviews with fascinating French novelists even in the remotest environs of Constantinople and we know of no facts on which such a story can reasonably be based. This would be little to say against his romance if it were interesting as a story, but Pierre Loti is growing tedious. A study of the policy of the United States towards the French Revolution does full justice to Washington's common sense in avoiding all expression of sympathy with French excesses, so compromising for the new Republic in the West. M. Charmes' verdict on the French elections strongly resembles that passed by the SATURDAY REVIEW last week. "We may as well," he says, "recognise the fact that all the vexations and shame of these recent years have not produced on the country the deep impression that many people had hoped."

SCHOOL BOOKS.

"An Introduction to Geology." By J. E. Marr. Cambridge: At the University Press. 1906. 3s. net.

Many so-called introductions prolegomena and outlines are a mere snare to the beginner. They are really so elaborate in their treatment that they practically exhaust our existing knowledge of the subject they deal with. They are as it were vestibules and porches of temples that only future research can

create. Dr. Marr's "Introduction to Geology" does not belong to this pretentious class. It is meant for the tiro and the layman and wisely avoids the many debatable points with which the subject bristles. Not that it lacks suggestiveness as is shown by its scattered hints on the influence of geology on scenery.

"The First Book of Euclid's Elements, with a Commentary based principally upon that of Proclus Diadochus." By William Barrett Frankland. Cambridge: At the University Press. 1906. 6s. net.

"Geometry Theoretical and Practical." Part I. By W. P. Workman and A. G. Cracknell. London: Clive. 1906. 3s. 6d.

"Solid Geometry." By Charles Davison. Cambridge: At the University Press. 1906. 2s. 6d. net.

"Cubic Surfaces." By W. H. Blythe. Cambridge: At the University Press. 1906. 4s. net.

We welcome Mr. Frankland's commentary on "The First Book of Euclid" all the more warmly as it is a genuine work of erudition worthy to rank with the best products of Continental learning. It is indeed melancholy to think how many of our best scholars waste their time in the production of miserable little text-books for getting through the Little-go or Responsions. Cumbered with much serving in the way of hackwork examining they seem to forget that research is the goal of all true scholarship. Mr. Frankland attempts to give us the real Euclid—free from the glosses of ancient and modern scholiasts which have not infrequently operated to Euclid's

(Continued on page 628.)

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	1904 - - - - £20,474,666

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disadvantage. As Messrs. Workman and Cracknell truly say in their "Geometry Theoretical and Practical", "those who know Euclid best, respect him most". Their book is a compromise between Euclid and the newer school geometry. They rightly, as we think, insist on the value of a certain amount of memory work, which certainly has its place after the intelligence has been duly exercised in the work of discovery. It is one thing to see through a process of reasoning, it is a further step to make certain of permanently making it part of one's own knowledge, not as a sort of thing to be pigeon-holed in some brain-centre, but to be utilised for the acquisition of fresh information. It is curious how each country has its own fashions in mathematics, which are quite as distinctive and often as arbitrary as those of dress or etiquette. Solid geometry has a great vogue in Germany and the United States. In England it usually appears in the school curriculum at the fag-end of Euclid. Few students regard it with any seriousness, knowing that one or at most two questions will ever be asked on the subject at the inevitable examination that like the poor is ever with us. Happily, as Mr. Davison observes, the recent changes in the teaching of plane geometry may very well lead to a universal interest in this important branch of geometry. Such a book should prove a good introduction to Mr. Blythe's interesting monograph "On Models of Cubic Surfaces".

"A New Junior Arithmetic." By H. Bompas Smith. London: Methuen. 1906. 2s. 6d.

"The Teacher's Blackboard Arithmetic." Part II. By "Tact." London: Blackie. 1906. 1s. 6d.

"The Winchester Arithmetic." By C. Godfrey and G. M. Bell. Cambridge: at the University Press. 1906.

Mr. Bompas Smith tries to hold the balance even between the concrete arithmetic which is now the fashion and those interminable lines or columns of figures to be multiplied or added that made the subject such a dismal one in the past. Thus, while holding firm to the doctrine that the teaching should deal with the pupil's actual environment, he also sees the advantage of cultivating to a certain extent the knack of rapid and accurate calculation which seems in some danger of being neglected to-day. "The Teacher's Blackboard Arithmetic" is intended as a help for those who teach large classes, as in the elementary schools. It does not appear to contain any striking novelties but the general arrangement is clear. "The Winchester Arithmetic" is a more ambitious book. It caters for teachers as well as boys. The interleaved teacher's copy not only contains the answers but specimens of worked-out exercises. Few teachers, we hope, will need such help, as if they do they ought not to be teaching at all. Otherwise there are many good points about the book. The connexion with algebra is clearly shown, oral arithmetic is made a great feature, and the sound dictum laid down that oral arithmetic should often precede and even be in advance of the written work.

"Oxford Modern French Series."—*Les Chouans*. By Honoré de Balzac. Edited by C. L. Freeman. Oxford: At the Clarendon Press. 1906.

"Le Verre d'Eau. Comédie." Edited by W. G. Etheridge. London: Blackie. 1906.

"Rivington's New Junior French Texts."—(1) *Trois Contes de Fées*; (2) *Fables Choisies de La Fontaine*. London: Blackie. 1906. 1s. each.

"Arnold's French Texts."—(1) *Monsieur Tringle*. Par Champfleury. (2) *Marie-Antoinette*. Par Edmond et Jules de Goncourt. (3) *Vie de Polichinelle*. Par Octave Feuillet. (4) *Le Forçat*. Par Madame de Ségur. (5) *Le bon Père*. Par Florian. (6) *La Souris Blanche et les Petits Souliers*. Par Hégésippe Moreau. Price 6d. each. London: Arnold. 1906.

M. Delbos has been well advised to add Balzac's fascinating romance "Les Chouans" to his Modern French Series. Mr. Freeman supplies an adequate introduction and prefatory note. The note on gars might very well have indicated that it is an old nominative like *pâtre*, &c. To say of "galette de sarrasin" that "it should properly be called *crêpe*, but never is" strikes one as a peculiar way of stating things. We note "ler" for "filer". Mr. Etheridge's edition of Scribe's famous comedy possesses the great merit of not being overloaded with notes which in five cases out of six are principally useful for indicating the supposed erudition of the editor. Messrs. Rivington's New Junior French Texts are a compromise between old and new methods. The notes are in French. The note in *La Fontaine's Fables* on *plus d'à moitié* which states that *plus qu'à moitié* is the modern form is misleading. *Plus d'à moitié* is still current though less common. There are several misprints in the notes, &c., of the *Trois Contes de Fées*, equivalent (page 42), *gendre* (page 43), *resumer* (page 48), *changeât* (page 49). Messrs. Arnold's French Texts are superior to several of their rivals in the size and clearness of their print. The notes are brief and

to the point. In addition each volume is furnished with a vocabulary. Altogether they provide a wonderful sixpenny-worth.

"Grammaire Française à l'usage des Anglais." Par E. Renault. London: Arnold. 1906. 4s. 6d.

Grammars may be divided into two types, those that give the bare bones, the skeleton, so to say, of the language, and those which aim rather at comprehensiveness and completeness. The former, containing, as they do, what is considered to be the irreducible minimum of data requisite to the acquisition of a language are intended to be mastered from cover to cover, the latter being by nature encyclopædic derive their chief value from acting as books of reference. M. Renault's grammar falls rather into the second than the first category. It is an admirable storehouse of rules and directions for those who desire to possess the French language in the French sense of the word. Not the least useful feature in the book is the excellence of the examples—which largely consist of those matchless phrases—four or five words long—by which the French sum up a whole situation or doctrine; such as "tout est pour le mieux dans le meilleur des mondes possibles" which has made the round of the civilised world.

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(Continued on page 632.)

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RAND MINES, LIMITED.

BALANCE SHEET, December 31, 1905.

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES.		
Dr.		
To Capital Account—		
Registered capital—		
1,900,000 Shares of 5s.		
each	£490,000	0 0
Less 164,044 Shares of 5s.		
each in reserve ..	41,011	0 0
1,795,956 Shares.	£448,989	0 0
Issued Capital—		
1,795,896 Shares of 5s.		
each	448,974	0 0
15 Shares of £1 each	15	0
(not yet converted) ..	£448,989	0 0
Share Premium Account—		
As per Balance-sheet,		
December 31, 1904 ..	170,777	0 0
Funds Transferred from		
Appropriation Account—		
For expenditure on In-		
vestments in excess of		
Working Capital pro-		
vided	2,151,553	5 5
5 per cent. Debentures—		
Authorised Issue ..	£1,250,000	0 0
Less in Reserve ..	250,000	0 0
Less Redeemed to date..	1,000,000	0 0
	416,700	0 0
NOTE.—A further £83,300		
Debentures were drawn		
on December 5, 1905, for		
payment on January 1,		
1906		
Sundry Shares subscribed for—		
South Nourse, Limited—		
68,112 Shares, 10s. 6d.		
per Share uncalled ..	35,753	16 0
Wolbutter Deep, Limited—		
44,567 Shares, 25s. 6d.		
per Share uncalled ..	59,051	5 6
City Deep, Limited—		
4,702 Shares, 20s. per		
Share uncalled ..	6,817	13 0
South Crown, Limited—		
403 Shares, 13s. per		
Share uncalled ..	261	19 0
South Langlaagte, Limited—		
403 Shares, 13s. per		
Share uncalled ..	261	19 0
Rand Mutual Assurance		
Co., Limited—		
11 Shares, £9 per Share		
uncalled	99	0 0
Debenture Interest—		
Coupons Nos. 16 and 17		
—Unpresented	20	0 0
Coupon No. 18—for Half-		
year ending Dec. 31,		
1905	14,581	10 0
Sundry Holders of Redeemed		
Debentures—		
5th Drawing unpresented		
Premium of 3 per cent.		
on £83,300 Debentures		
drawn on December 5,		
1905, for payment on		
January 1, 1906 ..	2,499	0 0
Unclaimed Dividends Account—		
Unpresented Dividend		
Warrants, Dividends		
Nos. 1 to 5	5,171	10 0
Unpresented Bearer Share		
Warrant Coupons, Divi-		
dends Nos. 1 to 5 ..	4,583	6 0
Sundry Creditors—		
On account of Sundries		
	17,186	15 9
Balance of Appropriation		
Account—		
Unappropriated	1,203,870	5 8
	£4,714,946	10 4
PROPERTY AND ASSETS.		
Cr.		
By Claims and Water Rights—		
105,348 Mining Claims and Water Rights	£27,113	0 1
NOTE.—The Company has agreed to pur-		
chase the Freehold of 40,8474 Claims		
for £3,000.		
Farm Property—		
"Mossfontein"—Freehold,		
in extent 611 morgen 223		
roods; two armpatches		
equal in area to 217,1112		
Claims and three mining		
Claims (Owners) ..	£13,125	11 11
"Langlaagte"—Freehold,		
in extent 236 morgen 311		
roods 89 feet	11,457	13 3
Freehold and Leasehold Property		
Reservoirs and Pumping Plants—		
Natal Spruit Reservoir and		
Pumping Plant	112,930	4 11
Booyesen's Spruit Reservoir		
and Pumping Plant ..	51,367	14 10
	164,317	19 9
Shares at Cost in Various Companies		
	237,055	3 6
	3,127,584	11 11
	£3,364,619	5 5

PROPERTY AND ASSETS—(continued).

Brought forward ..	£3,364,619	5 5
Machinery, Plant and Stores,		
&c. (for Account of Sub-		
sidary Companies)—		
In Stock	11,465	5 4
In Transit	21,291	1 0
	32,756	6 4
Live Stock and Vehicles, &c.		
Furniture	913	0 3
Bearer Share Warrants ..	1,782	18 0
	754	15 5
Deposits on Call, bearing		
Interest	1,066,091	6 11
Cash at Bankers and in Hand	16,016	14 6
	1,082,108	1 5
Sundry Debtors—		
Amounts owing by Sub-		
sidary Companies—		
On Advance Accounts ..	22,600	0 0
On Current Accounts ..	4,541	15 0
Sundry Persons for Pro-		
ceeds of Shares sold and		
Current Accounts ..	62,086	16 6
Dividends to be received		
on Shareholdings ..	149,844	12 0
	232,013	3 6
	3,350,327	4 11
	£4,714,946	10 4

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1905.

Dr.		
To Administration Expenses—		
Salaries and Rents, Johan-		
nesburg and London ..	£5,628	5 3
Directors', Paris Agents',		
Auditors' and Deben-		
ture Trustees' Fees ..	4,112	19 11
Stationery, Printing, Ad-		
vertising, Postages and		
Telegrams	2,914	15 5
Legal Expenses	168	0 0
Sundry General Ex-		
penses	4,713	5 4
	£16,837	5 11
French Fiscal Taxes—		
For the year ending Decem-		
ber 31, 1905	4,770	4 9
Depreciation Account—		
Written off Real Estate, Live Stock and		
Vehicles, &c.	2,421	8 9
5 per Cent. Debentures—		
3 per cent. premium on £83,300 Debentures		
drawn on December 5, 1905, for redemp-		
tion on January 1, 1906 ..	2,499	0 0
Interest and Exchange—		
Net Expenditure	900	11 10
Balance—		
Profit for the year carried to Appropriation Account ..	667,798	19 3
	£695,227	10 6
Cr.		
By Dividends on Shareholdings—		
Glen Deep, Ltd.	£25,152	0 0
Rose Deep, Ltd.	38,538	0 0
Geldenhuis Deep, Ltd. ..	61,279	0 0
Nourse Deep, Ltd.	43,111	19 0
Ferreira Deep, Ltd.	136,284	18 0
Crown Deep, Ltd.	131,432	0 0
Village Main Reef G. M. Co., Ltd. ..	20,879	12 0
Robinson Central Deep, Ltd. ..	27,785	12 0
	£484,483	1 0
Natal and Booyesen's Spruit Reservoirs—		
Net Revenue	31,982	6 8
Sundry Revenue	1,276	14 7
Share Realisation—		
Profit on Shares sold	177,483	8 3
	£695,227	10 6

APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT.

Dr.		
To Expended on Investment Account to date	£2,161,553	5 5
Dividends—		
Interim Dividend No. 5 of 100 per cent. declared on		
June 23, 1905	448,989	0 0
Balance Unappropriated—		
Carried to Balance Sheet	1,203,870	5 8
	£3,814,412	11 1
Cr.		
By Balance brought forward—		
As per Balance-sheet, December 31, 1904	£3,146,613	11 10
Balance of Profit and Loss Account—		
For the year ending December 31, 1905	667,798	19 3
	£3,814,412	11 1

H. A. READ, Secretary.

L. REYERSBACH, Chairman.
S. NEUMANN, Director.

We have examined the above Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Account, and Appropriation Account, with the Books, Accounts and Vouchers of the Company, and certify that, in our opinion, the Balance Sheet is full and fair, contains the particulars required by the Articles of Association of the Company, and is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the whole of the Company's affairs.

C. L. ANDERSSON & CO.,
Incorporated Accountants,
THOMAS DOUGLAS,
Chartered Accountant,

Auditors.

Johannesburg, February 23, 1906.

RAND MINES—continued.

At the eleventh annual ordinary general meeting of the Company held in Johannesburg on March 31, 1906, the Chairman (Mr. L. Meyersbach), in the course of a long speech, said:—"The past year will be remembered in the financial history of the Transvaal for the fact that the output of gold has for the first time exceeded twenty millions sterling, and if the prosperity of the Colony were to be judged solely by the progress achieved in this direction we would have every reason for congratulation. The total of the world's production of gold for 1905 was £75,093,102, to which this Colony contributed no less than 27 per cent. It appears to me that the huge gold-mining industry created on the Witwatersrand during the last twenty years has alone enabled a number of Governments to place their monetary systems on a sound basis. But for the increase in the reserves of the precious metal supplied from this centre, the attempts at replacing silver or paper currency by gold standards would have been futile. The leaders of the industry and also the men responsible for legislation affecting it, should bear in mind that it has become one of the important economic factors in the general financial position of the world. The commercial and financial depression, which already was very marked when last I had the honour of addressing you, has unfortunately continued, and has during the last six or eight months become more and more accentuated, notwithstanding an enormous increase in the amount of money spent in this community. The disbursements of Mining Companies for wages and stores have never before reached anything like the amounts paid out during the past year: commitments for new machinery and extended development, which entail enhanced wages bills, have also been very considerable, though I doubt whether previous annual records in this direction have been exceeded. The cash and cash assets at the end of 1904, after deducting all liabilities, inclusive of amounts due in respect of uncalled capital subscribed for, but exclusive of the then outstanding Debentures, amounted to £1,080,514 10s. 9d. Profits for the year have been £607,798 19s. 3d., and the book value of the investments realised represents £37,866 5s. 5d., making a total of £1,786,179 15s. 5d. Out of this, expenditure on investment account, including shares purchased, has absorbed £49,970 9s. 9d. A dividend of 100 per cent. equal to £48,059, was paid to shareholders on the 30th June last, and the debenture debt has been reduced by £83,330, leaving available at the end of December 1905 £1,203,870 5s. 8d. in cash and cash assets. This figure again excludes the outstanding debentures, but allows for all other liabilities."

NITRATE PRODUCERS' STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

The annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Nitrate Producers' Steamship Company, Limited, was held yesterday at the offices, 20 Billiter Buildings, E.C., Mr. John Latta, Chairman of the Company, presiding.

The Secretary (Mr. James A. Walker) having read the usual notice, The Chairman said:—"When I had the pleasure of presiding at our general meeting last year, I gave it as my opinion that there was no immediate prospect of an improvement in freight, and I regret events have proved its truth. Our steamers did slightly better in the autumn home from the States, but in other departments they have had to contend with more adverse conditions than we have experienced during any period of the Company's history. You will recollect I mentioned last year that we suffered considerably from labour troubles on the West Coast of South America. These difficulties have been more pronounced during the past 12 months, with the result that not only have our expenses on the Coast been higher, but delays discharging and loading have increased considerably. In no trade is quick despatch so essential to profit-earning as in the West Coast trade, as steamers lying there foul rapidly, and in consequence make long passages home, thereby consuming greater quantities of fuel, and, with bunkers costing 28s. per ton at Monte Video, you can readily see how profits are quickly eaten away. On the nine round voyages which our steamers performed during the twelve months ending April 1905 the average time each boat occupied discharging and loading worked out at 49½ days. This year the average for the same number of voyages works out at 66 days, roughly speaking 18 days worse than the preceding year, which represents a loss in the shape of exceptional delay of rather more than £4,000. A continuance of such a state of things would make the trade impossible, but I am pleased to be able to tell you that, while there is no immediate prospect of the labour difficulty being overcome, our agents—Messrs. Geo. C. Kenrick & Co., of Valparaiso—have been successful in getting a special concession for our Company from the Chilean Government. In terms of this concession, our steamers can load and discharge on Sundays, feast-days and holidays, and can also start loading instantly they arrive, thereby saving from half a day to a day at each port, and as it is customary for the steamers to call at as many as a dozen ports, it makes a very great saving. Considering the difficulties with which we have had to contend, I think you will regard the figures now put forward as satisfactory: the gross earnings are £2,000 less than last year, but the net profit is only £1,000 less. If you refer to the deadweight capacity of the various steamers, you will notice there is a considerable increase over last year, accountable to the increased freeboard granted by the Board of Trade. It represents an additional carrying capacity of 1,850 tons, which at 46s. per deadweight ton, and our steamers cost much over that, gives an increased capital value of over £11,000. I do not know, when congratulating you on this increase of earning capacity, whether we can well overlook the loss we have sustained through this privilege being deferred so long. In other words, it has been proved that these steamers could have carried with perfect safety this extra quantity of cargo all these years, which would have meant increased profits of nothing under £20,000. Our foreign competitors have not been subjected to these restrictions, and have earned these additional profits with equal safety to life and property. It would be interesting to know at what price our authorities estimate it costs the country to educate them in a matter of this kind." After some reference to the bill for compelling foreign ships under British jurisdiction to comply with the same regulations as British ships—a provision the advantage of which he doubted—the Chairman continued:—"During the year we have disposed of the 'Juanita North,' our oldest steamer, at a figure considerably in excess of her book value. You will also have noticed from the report that we had the great misfortune to lose our newest steamship, the 'Anglo-Peruvian,' after collision with an iceberg in a dense fog, in the North Atlantic. This is a most regrettable loss. The captain of this steamer is an absolutely reliable and capable navigator, and never before had an accident of any kind. A close examination of the circumstances leads us to the conclusion that it was a case of inevitable accident. Your directors see the necessity of maintaining the character of your Fleet, and, as shipbuilding prices are declining, they hope to be able to make a contract to replace the 'Anglo-Peruvian' on favourable terms. The freight market at present is not in a condition to justify building, if that were the only consideration. We have, however, to maintain our trade, which necessitates our keeping our Fleet thoroughly up to date, and, having lost the 'Anglo-Peruvian,' we have not built a steamer for over five years. The present depression, I think, is largely, or almost entirely I should say, due to over-building, as the quantity of cargo available all over the world has never been larger, and had shipowners generally followed our policy of not over-building, freights would to-day have been much better than they are. I have now the pleasure to propose that a dividend at the rate of 7½ per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, for the last six months, be paid, and the £10,000 be placed to the reserve account for depreciation, &c., and that the sum of £1,301 11s. 6d. be carried forward to next year's account."

Sir Theodore Fry seconded the resolution and it was carried unanimously. The retiring directors were re-elected, and a sum of £300 was voted to the directors for their services.

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Total .. £105

The Stock will be transferable in multiples of £1.

The instalments carry interest at the rate of 4½ per cent. per annum from their due dates till 31st October next, and Scrip to bearer carrying a Coupon for £1 rs. per £100 will be issued after Allotment.

The Scrip will be exchangeable on and after 1st November next free of expense for Certificates of the Stock in the names of the scrip-holders, who will be entitled to the interest accruing from the 1st November next. Interest will thenceforth be payable half yearly on the 1st May and 1st November.

Allottees will have the option of paying up in full on Allotment, or on the date of any subsequent instalment, under discount at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum.

The failure to pay any instalment when due renders all previous payments liable to forfeiture.

Where the amount allotted is less than that applied for, the surplus will be applied towards the amount payable on Allotment. If no Allotment is made, the deposit will be returned without deduction.

The Company, which was formed in the year 1888, has a paid-up Capital Stock of £2,200,000, a 4 per Cent. Perpetual Debt of £1,000,000, and a 4½ per cent. Debenture Debt, repayable on the 1st of January, 1940, of £500,000, part of the £1,000,000 4½ per cent. Debenture Stock authorised on the 26th of May, 1904, the remainder of which forms the amount now offered for sale.

The lines of the Company consist of about 600 miles of railway which will be augmented by the construction of branches, including one to Boquete and another to the Port of Mejillones, for which purpose, among others, the Company has now obtained the consent of the Trustees to issue this Debenture Stock. In addition to the construction of the above branches a large extension of the Company's system of Waterworks is being carried out.

The net revenue of the Company for the last five years has been as follows:—

1901	..	..	..	£228,900	Including the half share of surplus profits received by the Huanchaca Company.
1902	..	..	..	216,688	
1903	..	..	..	269,249	
1904	..	..	..	329,858	
1905	..	..	..	about 366,000*	

* The final Accounts for the year are not yet to hand.

After deducting the amount required to provide interest on the 4 per cent. Debenture Stock from the net revenue for 1905, as stated above, there remains a balance of about £326,000, while the amount required for interest upon the whole of the 4½ per cent. Debenture Stock, including the present issue, will be £45,000.

For the first three months of the present year the gross receipts have been approximately £143,800, showing an increase over the corresponding period of 1905 of about £60,100.

The Boquete Branch commences at km. 36 on the main line and will run in a south-easterly direction to Boquete, a distance of about 110 km.

The Mejillones Branch commences at km. 59 on the main line and will run in a north-westerly direction to the Port of Mejillones, a distance of about 77 km. where important pier and harbour works are in course of construction by the Company.

From reports furnished to the Company, it appears that the former branch will open up an extensive Nitrate district. The latter branch will, when completed, solve the present difficulties arising out of the fact that the shipping facilities at the Port of Antofagasta are now hardly adequate to cope with the greatly increased and ever-growing traffic of the Company.

The extension to Conchi is now completed and open for traffic, while the works on the Collahuasi Branch are well advanced.

In consequence of the increased demand for water, a new pipe line is being laid from S. Pedro to Cerillos, a distance of about 200 km., which it is believed will increase the water-supply sufficiently to meet present and future requirements."

A contract dated the 10th May, 1906, has been made between the Company and Messrs. J. HENRY SCHRODER & CO. for the acquisition from the Company of the Debenture Stock now offered.

The Trust Deed for securing the Debenture Stock, together with the form of Debenture Stock Certificate and the above-mentioned Contract, can be inspected

at the Office of Messrs. HOLLAMS, SONS, COWARD & HAWKSLEY, 30 Mincing Lane, E.C.
Applications should be made on the Forms accompanying this offer, and forwarded with the amount of Deposit payable on application.
Forms of Application can be obtained from Messrs. J. HENRY SCHRODER & CO., 145 Leadenhall Street, E.C., and from Messrs. W. GREENWELL & CO., 2 Finch Lane, E.C.
London, 18th May, 1906.

THE ANTOFAGASTA (CHILI) AND BOLIVIA RAILWAY COMPANY, LTD.

(Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1886.)

AUTHORISED CAPITAL - - - £2,240,000

Of which £2,200,000 have been issued.

4 per Cent. PERPETUAL DEBENTURE STOCK ISSUED £1,000,000

4½ per Cent. DEBENTURE STOCK ISSUED £500,000*

*This amount will be increased to £1,000,000 by the 4½ per cent. Debenture Stock now offered.

Directors.

EMANUEL M. UNDERDOWN, Esq., K.C., *Chairman*.
Major-General Sir JOHN ARDAGH, K.C.M.G., K.C.I.E., C.B., R.E.
ALFRED FREWIN, Esq., C.E.
RICHARD H. GLYN, Esq.
Sir LEPEL GRIFFIN, K.C.S.I.
BERNARD GREENWELL, Esq.

Bankers.

Messrs. GLYN, MILLS, CURRIE & CO., 67 Lombard Street, E.C.

Auditors.

Messrs. DELOITTE, PLENDER, GRIFFITHS & CO., London Wall Buildings, E.C.

Secretary and Offices.

H. D. GREVILLE, 1 Broad Street Place, E.C.

Solicitors to the Company.

Messrs. SLAUGHTER & MAY, 18 Austin Friars, E.C.

INDIA £3 PER CENT. STOCK.

Not Redeemable before 5th October, 1948.

Trustees are empowered to invest in this Stock, unless expressly forbidden by the Instrument creating the Trust. (See the Trustee Act, 1893.)

ISSUE OF £2,000,000;

which will be consolidated with the existing India £3 per Cent. Stock.

Minimum Price of Issue, £94 10s. per Cent.

The First Dividend, being Three Months' Interest, will be payable on the 5th October, 1906.

THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF THE BANK OF ENGLAND give notice that they are authorised to receive tenders for this Loan.

This Issue is made under the provisions of the East India Loans (Railways) Act, 1905, in order to provide funds for the Construction &c. of Railways in India through the Agency of Companies, and for the discharge of £749,900 Debentures of the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway Company, falling due in the financial year, 1906-7.

This Stock will bear Interest at the rate of £3 per cent. per annum, payable quarterly at the Bank of England, on the 5th January, the 5th April, the 5th July, and the 5th October in each year, the first Dividend (a full quarter's Dividend) being payable on the 5th October next; and will be consolidated after the 1st June, 1906, with the India £3 per Cent. Stock now existing, which is not redeemable until the 5th October, 1948, but will be redeemable at par on or after that day, upon one year's previous notice having been given in "The London Gazette" by the Secretary of State for India in Council.

The Books of the Stock are kept at the Bank of England, and at the Bank of Ireland, where all assignments and Transfers are made. All Transfers and Stock Certificates are free of Stamp Duty.

Tenders must be delivered at the Chief Cashier's Office, Bank of England, before Two o'clock on Wednesday, the 23rd May, 1906, and a deposit of £5 per cent. on the nominal amount of the Stock tendered for must be paid at the time of the delivery of the tender. The deposit must not be enclosed in the tender.

Tenders may be for the whole or any part of the Stock in multiples of £100. Each tender must state what amount of money will be given for every £100 of Stock; and the amount of Stock applied for must be written on the outside of the tender. Tenders at different prices must be on separate forms. The minimum price, below which no tender will be accepted, has been fixed at £94 10s. for every £100 of Stock. All tenders must be at prices which are multiples of sixpence.

In the event of the receipt of tenders, at or above the minimum price, for a larger amount of Stock than that proposed to be issued, the tenders at the lowest price accepted will be subject to a pro rata diminution.

Where no allotment is made the deposit will be returned, and in the case of partial allotment the balance of the deposit will be applied towards the first instalment. Should there be a surplus after making that payment, such surplus will be refunded by cheque.

The dates on which the further payments will be required are as follows:—

On Tuesday, the 5th June, 1906,	{ so much as, when added to the deposit, will leave Seventy-five Pounds (Sterling) to be paid for each hundred pounds of Stock.
On Thursday, the 5th July, 1906,	{ £25 per cent.
On Friday, the 3rd August, 1906,	{ £25 per cent.
On Friday, the 7th September, 1906,	{ £25 per cent.

The instalments may be paid in full on, or after, the 5th June, 1906, under discount at the rate of £3 per cent. per annum.

In case of default in the payment of any instalment at its proper date, the deposit and the instalments previously paid will be liable to forfeiture.

Scrip Certificates to bearer, with Coupon attached for the dividend payable on the 5th October, 1906, will be issued in exchange for the dividend payable on the 5th October, 1906.

As soon as these Scrip Certificates to bearer have been paid in full, they can be inscribed (i.e. converted into Stock); or they can be exchanged for Stock Certificates to bearer in denominations of £100, £500, and £1,000, without payment of any fee, provided such exchange is effected not later than the 3rd December, 1906.

Stock Certificates to bearer will have quarterly Coupons attached. Stock may be converted into Stock Certificates to bearer, and Stock Certificates may be converted into Stock, at any time, on payment of the usual fees.

Tenders must be on printed forms, which may be obtained at the Bank of England, or at any of its Branches; at the Bank of Ireland; of Mr. Horace H. Scott, the Broker to the Secretary of State for India in Council (Messrs. R. Nivison & Co.), 76 Cornhill, London, E.C.; or of Messrs. Mullens, Marshall & Co., 13 George Street, Mansion House, London, E.C.

Bank of England, 18th May, 1906.

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NOTICE.—The **SUBSCRIPTION LIST** will **OPEN** on **SATURDAY**, the **19th May**, and **CLOSE** on or before **TUESDAY**, the **22nd May**, 1906.

DELHI ELECTRIC TRAMWAYS AND LIGHTING COMPANY, LIMITED

(Registered under the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1900), is now issuing a Prospectus, which states (inter alia) that the

CAPITAL is £170,000,
divided into

140,000 Six per Cent. Preferred and Participating Shares
of £1 each £140,000
30,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each £30,000

and that the Company is now making an

ISSUE of the whole of the PREFERRED and PARTICIPATING SHARES at par,

Payable as follows:—

On Application per Share, 2s.
On Allotment " 4s.

The balance as and when required by calls not exceeding 5s. each, payable at intervals of not less than Two Months.

The Preferred and Participating Shares are entitled to a Non-Cumulative Preferential Dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, and to four-fifths of the surplus profits after payment of a Non-Cumulative Dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum on the Ordinary Shares, which are also entitled to one-fifth of the surplus profits.

In the event of a liquidation, the Preferred and Participating Shares will rank as regards Capital in priority to the Ordinary Shares, and the surplus assets, after repaying the Capital paid up on the Preferred and Participating Shares and the Ordinary Shares, belong as to four-fifths to the holders of the Preferred and Participating Shares, and as to the remaining one-fifth to the holders of the Ordinary Shares.

And that the Directors and officers of the Company are:—

DIRECTORS.

Colonel SIR BUCHANAN SCOTT, K.C.I.E., Royal Engineers, Retired; and late Deputy Consulting Engineer for Railways, India, 109 Queen's Gate, London, S.W. (Chairman).

THOMAS WILLIAM STRATFORD ANDREWS, Managing Director of Indo-European Telegraph Company (Limited), Cecil House, Wimbledon Common, Surrey.

JOHN MONTRIOU CAMPION, M.I.C.E., late Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Punjab, "Kufri," Amherst Road, Ealing, W.

ANDREW WILSON TAIT (of Messrs. George A. Touch and Co.), Chartered Accountant, Basildon House, Moorgate Street, London, E.C.

BANKERS.

LONDON CITY AND MIDLAND BANK (Limited), Threadneedle Street, London, E.C., and Branches.

NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA (Limited), Bishopsgate Street Within, London, E.C.

ENGINEERS.

KINCAID, WALLER, MANVILLE and DAWSON, 29 Great George Street, Westminster.

HARPER BROS. and CO., 13 St. Helen's Place, E.C.

SOLICITORS.

WORTHINGTON EVANS, DAUNEY and CO., 27 Nicholas Lane, E.C. (for the Company).

PAINES, BLYTH, and HUXTABLE, 14 St. Helen's Place, E.C. (for The Punjab Electric Traction Co., Ltd.).

BROKERS.

FREMANTLE and RIGG, 77 to 80 Palmerston House, Old Broad Street, and Stock Exchange, London, E.C.

HENRY COOKE and SON, St. Ann's Churchyard, and Stock Exchange, Manchester.

WISE, SPEKE, and CO., 28 Collingwood Street, and Stock Exchange, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

CHRISTOPHER, BARBER and SON, George Street, and Stock Exchange, Sheffield.

AUDITORS.

WHINNEY, SMITH, and WHINNEY, Chartered Accountants, 32 Old Jewry, London, E.C.

SECRETARY AND OFFICES.

ALBERT JOHN SIDE, Basildon House, Moorgate Street, London, E.C.

OBJECTS OF THE COMPANY.—The Company has been formed to construct and operate a system of Electric Tramways in the Municipality of Delhi under an Order proposed to be granted under the Indian Tramways Act 1886 by the Government of the Punjab, and to supply Electric Power for Lighting and other purposes under the terms of a License called "The Delhi (Municipality) Electric License of 1905," dated 24th February, 1905, granted by the Government of the Punjab.

Delhi is the chief commercial centre in the Punjab. It has a population of over 200,000 inhabitants; seven lines of railway terminate in or pass through the City. The industries of Delhi include cotton mills, flour mills, embroidery, and jewellery.

ROUTE OF TRAMWAY.—The proposed route of the Tramway, which has been selected (as will be seen by the map enclosed with Prospectus) with a view to dealing with the traffic between the most important points in the City, including the new Central Railway

Station, the Government Buildings, Post Office, College, and Law Courts. It traverses the famous street known as Chandni Chowk, which is 40 yards wide and nearly a mile long, and is lined on either side by the finest shops in the City. The route also runs through the Sadar Bazaar from end to end, thus connecting the two new passenger stations recently erected with the centre of the City and with the New Central Railway Station mentioned above. The Sadar Bazaar is nearly a mile in length, and is the centre of the grain, leather, and indigo markets, and the place of business of the large wholesale merchants. The route also passes the "Jumma Masjid," the largest and most celebrated Mosque in the East, where thousands congregate for worship.

There is excellent scope for a large goods traffic between the cotton mills and various works and bazaars and the railway stations, the only means at present available being the native vehicles.

LIGHTING.—The Company will acquire as a going concern the lighting installation which now supplies current to the municipality for street lighting, and to the Sadar Railway Station, and also to a few private consumers. This portion of the undertaking is in its infancy. The directors confidently anticipate that when the additional mains are provided, a greatly increased business can be done, both for lighting and power, and that the Delhi Club and the principal hotels and residents will immediately become customers.

PUNKAH.—A remunerative source of revenue will be the working of fans, which, where electricity is installed, are rapidly replacing the Punkah now worked by manual labour, and which must, in a climate like that of India, be kept in operation continuously day and night during the hot season.

Messrs. Kincaid, Waller, Manville, and Dawson, the well-known Electrical Engineers, have reported upon the scheme and its prospects, and a print of their full report accompanies this Prospectus. The following is a copy of their condensed Report:—

"29 Great George Street, Westminster, 14th May, 1906.

"To the Directors of the Delhi Electric Tramways and Lighting Company, Limited.

"Delhi Tramways, Power, and Lighting.

"Gentlemen,—We have carefully considered the draft Tramway Order and the License granted by the Punjab Government under date of the 24th February, 1905, authorising the construction and working of Tramways at Delhi, together with the supply of electrical energy for all purposes.

"Delhi is the principal City and most important commercial centre, after Calcutta, in the Northern part of India, with a population of over 200,000 inhabitants.

"The License, the terms of which are in all respects satisfactory, provides that the electrical undertaking may be acquired by the Local Authority or the Local Government at the expiration of 42 years, or at each subsequent period of 10 years from such date at the fair market value at the time of purchase of the lands, buildings, works, materials, and plant suitable for the purposes of the electrical undertaking.

"The draft Tramway Order, the terms of which are also in all respects satisfactory, provides that the Tramway undertaking may be acquired by the Local Authority or the Local Government at the expiration of 42 years from the date of the Order, or at each subsequent period of 10 years, and that the terms of purchase thereof shall be the then market value of the Tramway, and in case of disagreement shall be determined by arbitration. It is, however, compulsory for the Local Authority or Local Government if it exercises the option to purchase the Tramway to purchase the electrical undertaking as well.

"The fact that the current for lighting and for the Tramway service can be supplied from the same central station, the one requiring its maximum consumption during the day, and the other at night, is a most important factor, as it enables the generating plant to be worked to the best possible advantage, and reduces the cost of production.

"We have recently visited the City, and considered the local features of the undertaking, and after careful consideration of the estimates of capital cost, and also of revenue expenditure, have satisfied ourselves that the proposed capitalisation, amounting to £170,000, is reasonable, and that a net profit of £15,000 per annum, subject to London administration expenses, may be confidently anticipated in respect of the undertaking.

(Signed) KINCAID, WALLER, MANVILLE and DAWSON."

After deducting, say, £1,200 administration expenses in London, the net annual revenue when the business is developed on the above basis should be £13,800, which would be sufficient to provide a dividend of 7 per cent. on the Preferred and Participating Shares with a surplus.

It is believed that the Tramway and Lighting systems can be extended, and it is to be expected that the revenue will be increased thereby.

The Company has borrowing powers sufficient to deal with promising extensions, either in Delhi or elsewhere, and the shareholders will benefit from any profits resulting from such expansions.

The Company will pay a brokerage of 3d. per Share on all Shares applied for by the public (excluding underwriters) allotted in respect of applications bearing Brokers' stamps.

Application will be made to the Committee of the London Stock Exchange for a settlement in and quotation of the present issue of Shares.

The Prospectus sets out the Material Contracts, and contains the other information required by the Companies Acts. Copies of the Agreements, Reports and Plan, Draft Order and License, and of the Indian Tramways Act, 1886, and the Indian Electricity Act, 1903, can be inspected at the Offices of the Company's Solicitors on any business day before the closing of the Subscription List between the hours of 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application can be obtained from the Bankers and Brokers, and at the Offices of the Company.

Applications for shares will only be received upon the terms of the Prospectus and upon the Application Forms accompanying it. This Notice IS NOT INTENDED as an invitation to subscribe for Shares.

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